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NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Dallas knocks Whitecaps out of playoffs, 2-1

Goal on controversial penalty kick sinks Vancouver's season PAGE 29

Eight women now say Ghomeshi abused them

Actor Lucy DeCoutere agrees to be ID'd as one of his accusers PAGE 8

GIANTS REIGN AGAIN

SAN FRAN WINS 3RD WORLD SERIES IN 5 YEARS PAGE 29

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Dr. Shawn Llewellyn, veterinarian at Scottsdale Veterinary Hospital in Surrey, and a veterinary health technician provide a stray cat with a check-up and vaccination on Sept. 28. COURTESY PAWS FOR HOPE

Surrey streets overrun with cats

Government help wanted. Animal groups trying to curb overpopulation by spaying and neutering critters, but there's not enough funding

THANDI FLETCHER
thandi.fletcher@metronews.ca

The number of stray and feral cats in Surrey has ballooned to crisis proportions, according to animal welfare groups that are calling for more government funding to help get the overpopulation problem under control.

An estimated 20,000 stray and feral cats are roaming Surrey streets, with the population growing each year, according to the Vancouver Orphan Kitten Rescue Association (VOKRA).

Part of the problem is Surrey's fast-growing human population, said Kathy Powelson, executive director of Vancouver-based animal welfare charity Paws for Hope.

"There are likely larger sectors of low-income families in Surrey who may not have the funds to be able to spay and neuter their pets," she told Metro. "Their cats aren't feral but they are free roaming, which does contribute to the overpopulation problem."

The issue has led to five Metro Vancouver animal welfare groups joining forces to form the Surrey Community Cat Coalition, which aims to combat the cat overpopulation problem and improve conditions for cats living on the street.

The coalition is holding an event Sunday at Scottsdale Veterinary Hospital where veterinarian Dr. Shawn Llewellyn and volunteers will spay and neuter over 30 Surrey cats.

In recent years, efforts by VOKRA to neuter and release cats have been successful in controlling Vancouver's stray and feral cat population.

But the group hasn't been able to get a handle on Surrey's cat problem, mostly due to limited funding, said Marlene Dunbrack, a volunteer trapper for VOKRA in Surrey.

VOKRA applied for community grant funding from the City of Surrey last September, but the application was not approved, she said.

As a result, VOKRA's Vancouver branch is shouldering the cost of the group's Surrey operations.

Stray and feral cats not only live harsh lives, with a lack of food and water, exposure to extreme weather, disease and endless pregnancy cycles, but they can also be a nuisance for residents, said Dunbrack.

"We get calls about … cat fights, cats that are spraying because they're marking their territory on their bushes and cars," she said.

The issue, said Dunbrack, highlights a need for more education to encourage cat owners to get their animals fixed.

"The main thing is people need to spay and neuter their own cats," she said. "People shouldn't be adopting cats unless they can afford to spay and neuter them."

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NEWS

Protesters stop survey work

'Go back to Texas.'
Trans Mountain reassessing how to complete work needed for pipeline expansion

Surveyors, right, working on behalf of Kinder Morgan in preparation for the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion project are forced to leave the site by protesters on Burnaby Mountain. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Angry protesters stopped crews from conducting pipeline survey work on Burnaby Mountain Wednesday, forcing the company to reassess how it will finish work needed for a National Energy Board decision.

RCMP officers watched as some protesters confronted a Trans Mountain survey crew, yelling "go back to Texas," while another protester crawled under a survey crew's SUV, wrapped himself around the front tire and refused to leave.

Stephen Collis, a spokesman for the protesters who call themselves the Caretakers, said they plan to hunker down.

"We're currently occupying the space that they have identified that they need to work in. Since we're on public land, we have every right to be here," he said. "They can't really work in a space that's filled with dozens of people. That's the intention."

The plan worked, at least for the day.

Workers left in another vehicle, and one man carried several signs under his arm that read No Entry Until Further Notice and Field Testing Area Under Order of the National Energy Board.

Greg Toth, senior director for Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain expansion project, said all survey work on the mountain was stopped, although other crews were still working around Burnaby.

He wasn't yet sure if the company would ask for an injunction preventing protests.

"We have to reassess, based on today's activities," said Toth. "It's quite a vocal protest. Our priority is the safety of our crews and the general public. So we'll retrench and look at what options are available."

The demonstration comes in the midst of a bitter battle over the company's plans to expand the pipeline through Burnaby.

The National Energy Board granted Trans Mountain access to the sites so it can complete work through Burnaby Mountain, its preferred route for the pipeline. The NEB ruled the City of Burnaby can't prevent the activity because the work is needed for the board to make a decision on the expansion application.

The City of Burnaby announced it will appeal the NEB ruling. THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. biotech company develops 60-second Ebola test

A B.C. biotechnology company known for its 60-second HIV test has developed a similar rapid test for Ebola that it says could help in the fight against the disease outbreak that has claimed almost 5,000 lives in West Africa.

Dr. Christopher Shackleton, CEO of bioLytical Laboratories in Richmond, B.C., said the test, which is still a prototype, could be used as a diagnostic tool anywhere from hospitals to airport security screening.

"It is very simple to administer," he told Metro. "It is literally a finger-stick, much as you would do in a test for diabetes to check your blood sugar."

While it has not yet undergone clinical trials, scientists expect the test to be able to detect Ebola antigens in patients who already have symptoms of the disease in as little as 60 seconds, said Shackleton.

That could help patients receive potentially life-saving treatment sooner, he said.

"Earlier diagnosis is clearly a key," he said. "That's been shown that the earlier you pursue proper supportive care, the higher the probability that you're going to make it through this very serious infection."

The company is hoping to test the prototype using so-called convalescent serum — blood plasma from a patient who has recovered from Ebola that is considered to be high in infection-fighting antibodies.

Testing requires collaboration with global health authorities that have access to the blood of patients infected with Ebola, said Shackleton.

According to the World Health Organization, the Ebola outbreak in West Africa has infected more than 13,700 people and resulted in 4,920 deaths as of Monday.

Diagnostic tools like this one typically take years to develop, but Shackleton said the WHO is fast-tracking the process and requesting proposals for diagnostic tests, therapies and vaccines against Ebola. THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

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Vision Vancouver. Party's platform focuses on patio hours, dangerous drivers

From longer patio hours to policing of dangerous cyclists, the city's ruling party Vision Vancouver has released the remainder of its platform with just over two weeks to go before the municipal election.

The variety of new promises will cost an additional $1.2 million per year, according to the party.

On the lighter side, the party wants to let patio patrons stay outside until 1 a.m. (hours were extended until midnight this summer), allow 20 additional food truck permits and put ping-pong tables in parks.

More serious measures include $500,000 to crack down on dangerous drivers and cyclists — yes, the bike-friendly party said cyclists — and the creation of artist space.

Vision has already announced its primary platforms of advocating for the Broadway subway, opposing the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion and building more rental housing.

After releasing its final set of pledges, Vision promptly proceeded to criticize its main opposition, the Non-Partisan Association, for not yet releasing its full platform.

The NPA has released its main strategies for affordability, the economy and transportation.

The Green Party and COPE issued their platforms six weeks ago and seven months ago, respectively.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Prince Rupert. Market factors prompt BG Group to freeze LNG development

British energy firm BG Group is hitting the pause button on its proposed liquefied natural gas project near Prince Rupert as it takes stock of shifting market conditions.

"All we're doing at this point in time is pausing on Prince Rupert. We're not abandoning Prince Rupert," interim executive chairman Andrew Gould told analysts Tuesday on a conference call to discuss BG's third-quarter results.

"We will continue to work on the project, but not at the same rhythm that perhaps we were working in 2014."

Estimated LNG volumes from the United States are looking to be higher than previously expected at 90 million tonnes a year, versus 60 million tonnes, Gould said.

"So, as a result of this, coupled with weakness in gas pricing generally, there is a risk that the market will be very well supplied post 2020," he said. "We're pausing on Prince Rupert to see how the market evolves, particularly in function of total supply that will come out of the U.S."

Rich Coleman, B.C.'s natural gas development minister, said BG Group has always indicated it would do its homework before proceeding with the development. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Needle continues to spin for Compass card rollout

Getting political. As transportation minister expresses 'frustration and disappointment,' TransLink prepares the next phase of project

MATT KIELTYKA
matt.kieltyka@metronews.ca

A transit rider demonstrates the Compass card in Vancouver. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

Politicians sparred over the flawed rollout of TransLink's Compass cards in Victoria Wednesday as technical problems continue to push back the launch of the $194-million system.

TransLink hopes the electronic fare cards will now be completely operational and available to the public by the end of 2015, despite them having been in testing since 2013 and originally slated for launch in January 2014.

In the meantime, the cards will continue to be used by 67,000 elderly and disabled consumers, 12,000 TransLink employees and, starting in January, post-secondary school students on a trial basis.

Transportation Minister Todd Stone was challenged to explain the delays and defend the cost of the system during question period at the legislature Wednesday.

"TransLink does need to get its act together, it needs to be accountable and it needs to fix this problem," said Stone, who said he called TransLink's directors that morning to express the government's "disappointment and frustration."

NDP transportation critic George Heyman called the program "another failed Liberal plan" and questioned its value to Lower Mainland residents.

The electronic card system, with its fare gates at rapid transit stations and validators on buses, will cost $20 million a year to operate but only recoup $5 million to $7 million in lost revenues due to fare evasion.

That money should be used for desperately needed transit service expansion, Heyman told Metro.

"It doesn't make a lot of sense. It feels like an insider deal at a time we can't get the transit we really need," said Heyman. "It's impossible to have confidence (in the project's budget) when it's a system that has been delayed month to month, and now year to year."

TransLink spokesperson Colleen Brennan defended the project, saying it's not so much about fare evasion or savings as it is about providing a service.

"The primary objective is customer service," Brennan said. "We believe it's something that customers want and I think it's the right thing to do. It's really important for people to remember this is something that will be a great benefit to the region and we want to get it right the first time."

The ongoing technical issues have stemmed from the time it takes users to "tap out" on buses.

Currently, the process can take several seconds (the goal is 0.3 seconds).

Occasionally validators don't recognize cards at all, putting users on the hook for a three-zone fare when they've travelled less.

Post-secondary students will get Compass cards next, in part, because public transit passes are rolled into their tuition fees through the U-Pass program, so the tap-out issues wouldn't affect their wallets.

Brennan said TransLink is also open to an "interim period" where Compass users would only have to pay a one-zone fare and not be required to tap out until the system works consistently.

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Coun. Reimer's grass cost is 'farcical,' says players' lawyer

FIFA turf war. Vision councillor's price is 20 times what the players have estimated

EMILY JACKSON
emily.jackson@metronews.ca

A Vancouver councillor's suggestion that it would cost $78 million to install real grass for the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup in Canada is "farcical" and full of mistakes, according to the lawyer representing the elite soccer players suing FIFA and the Canadian Soccer Association over the turf.

Grass experts estimate it would only cost $3.35 million to resurface the six tournament fields, attorney Rocky Collins said Wednesday.

Collins represents the more than 60 women suing the associations for gender discrimination with the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal since men's World Cup tournaments have never been asked to play on artificial turf as it poses a greater risk of injury.

He rebuffed Vancouver council for delaying a motion calling for the city to pressure FIFA, the CSA and the province to pay for real grass after Vision Coun. Andrea Reimer estimated the massive cost to replace all practice and game fields in the six host cities.

Collins said it is based on the incorrect assumption that the fields would need to be replaced throughout the tournament. The women also do not expect FIFA to resurface the practice fields, so only six fields need real grass, Collins said.

"There is no need for the councillor to try to reinvent the wheel at a higher cost," Collins said.

Team Canada's Emily Zurrer, left, and Kadeisha Buchanan, centre, celebrate teammate Sophie Schmidt's goal as Japan's Saki Kumagai looks on during their friendly Tuesday at BC Place in Vancouver, where the field is artificial turf.
JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Next year's World Cup risks the global reputation of both women's sports and the City of Vancouver. Therefore, we respectfully encourage Coun. Reimer to devote her time to urging CSA to negotiate with the players they will be hosting."

Reimer, who is a soccer player, also questioned whether the dozens of grass fields in the region are suitable for elite training, especially in June when the fields are soggy, uneven and potentially unsafe after the winter months.

FIFA is using a similar argument as Reimer to quash the lawsuit, according to the Associated Press.

FIFA Secretary General Jerome Valcke said it would be "very difficult to ensure solid natural-grass pitches at all venues" due to Canadian weather. (Critics reject that argument since women have played on grass turf in at tournaments in Sweden, which also has harsh winters.)

Valcke also said that men might play on artificial turf one day too.

Landowners turn to the courts to stop Site C dam

An artist's rendering of the proposed Site C dam. COURTESY B.C. HYDRO

A group of landowners in northeastern British Columbia is turning to the courts to quash provincial and federal environmental approvals for the multibillion-dollar Site C dam.

The Peace Valley Landowners Association filed an application for judicial review this week in B.C. Supreme Court seeking to overturn an environmental certificate issued by the province. The association plans to file another such application next week in Federal Court targeting the environmental certificate issued in Ottawa.

Ken Boon, a rancher in the valley and president of the association, said the environmental certificates should be declared invalid.

"Site C is a costly, archaic and destructive project that has been kicked around for almost 40 years and has been turned down twice in that time, and it's been a wise decision both times not to proceed," Boon said Wednesday in Vancouver.

"We are confident that if truly analyzed, this project should have never received an environmental certificate this time around."

The first application, which names the provincial minister of environment and the minister of forests, lands and natural resource operations, asks for an order quashing the environmental assessment certificate and a declaration that the ministers erred in issuing the certificate.

It also asks the court for a declaration that the ministers erred by disregarding a joint review panel's recommendations to refer the project to the B.C. Utilities Commission for detailed examination.

BC Hydro declined to comment on a court action which does not name it as a party.

B.C. Energy Minister Bill Bennett said the issue is a highly emotional one for residents who will be affected. The Crown utility has said about 10 of the 30 landowners involved will be displaced.

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B.C. students get second chance to launch experiment into space

Not giving up. Rocket exploded in previous launch soon after liftoff

Spectators in Chincoteague, Va. watch the fireball from the explosion of the unmanned Orbital Sciences Corp.'s Antares rocket and Cygnus cargo capsule seconds after liftoff from Wallops Island, Va., on Tuesday.

RICH-JOSEPH FACUN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Talk about a second chance: A group of students in Kamloops will get another opportunity to get their experiment aboard a rocket bound for the International Space Station.

Just six seconds after liftoff Tuesday evening, a rocket launched from the Orbital Sciences Corp.'s complex in eastern Virginia exploded, destroying a payload of equipment that included the experiments of students from across North America.

On board was a microgravity experiment developed by four boys who attended McGowan Park elementary school in Kamloops last year and are now in Grade 8.

Paul Hembling, the project co-ordinator for the Kamloops-Thompson School District, said he and the students were thrilled to learn Wednesday from the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education that their experiment can be repeated for a future launch.

The $25,000 they'd fundraised will be covered by private company NanoRacks, the commercial launch agent that puts experiments into orbit, said Hembling, who is also principal of Bert Edwards Science and Technology School.

"The bottom line is our students will have the opportunity to get their experiment back into space at a later date. We don't know when that is yet. All we have to do is re-prepare their experimental payload," he said.

"If putting an experiment on the International Space Station wasn't enough to make them feel somewhat famous, having it blow up on a launch pad first and then go to the International Space Station on a subsequent launch, that's just icing on the cake," he said. "I think if I was a Grade 8 boy I'd think that this whole thing was pretty cool. I gotta be honest, I'm a grown man and I think it's pretty cool."

The experiment was designed to examine how space impacts the growth of crystals, and Hembling said it involved silicon tubes, 17 centimetres long and 0.9 centimetres in diameter.

Two separate solutions were inside the tubes and were separated by clips, he said.

Once the experiment was aboard the space station, the astronauts were supposed to remove a clip, allowing the solutions to mix and the crystals to form, Hembling said, noting a similar experiment was to take place on Earth at about the same time.

The experiment was supposed to return to earth in about 12 weeks, at which time the students could compare the results.

The students hypothesized the structure of the crystals formed in space would be different, Hembling said.

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Ghomeshi choked, slapped me, Trailer Park Boys actor alleges

'It was shocking.'
Eight women now accusing ex-CBC host of abusive behaviour

Eight women from across Canada now accuse former CBC host Jian Ghomeshi of abusive behaviour ranging from allegations of beating and choking without consent, to workplace sexual harassment.

The allegations the Star is probing range from 2002 to the present.

One of the women, popular Canadian television actor Lucy DeCoutere, has agreed to be identified. DeCoutere, who plays Lucy on Trailer Park Boys, recalls an incident in 2003 when she alleges Ghomeshi, without warning or consent, choked her to the point she could not breathe and then slapped her hard three times on the side of her head.

"He did not ask if I was into it. It was never a question. It was shocking to me. The men I have spent time with are loving people," said DeCoutere, who, when she is not acting on the television show, is a captain in the Royal Canadian Air Force in New Brunswick.

Ghomeshi, 47, was fired Sunday from his job as host of Q, a flagship radio show of the publicly funded broadcaster. Ghomeshi has alleged in a lawsuit filed the next day that CBC made a "moral judgment" that his practice of a bondage-sadism sex life was wrong.

He is suing the CBC for $55 million for defamation and breach of trust and the corporation has said it will "vigorously" defend itself against Ghomeshi's lawsuit.

The Star has presented Ghomeshi, his lawyers and his public relations staff with the allegations in this story and they have yet to respond.

Canadian actor Lucy DeCoutere alleges that Jian Ghomeshi attacked her in 2003. BRIAN ATKINSON/FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

He met some of the women during his 2012 tour to promote 1982, his best-selling memoir about a year in high school in Thornhill. Others he met at film festivals, at music or CBC events, or at the CBC workplace.

Two of the women who allege they were physically assaulted also say that before the alleged assaults in his home he introduced them to Big Ears Teddy, a stuffed bear, and he turned the bear around just before he slapped or choked them, saying that "Big Ears Teddy shouldn't see this."

One of the new women to come forward is a woman in her mid-20s who was a CBC producer in Montreal who dreamed of being on Q. He met her at one of his book signings. Ghomeshi allegedly took her to his hotel room, threw her against the wall and was very "forceful" with her. She said she performed oral sex "to get out of there." The woman, who still works in the media but not at CBC, said she decided not to complain because she feared he was too powerful.

"I felt like Jian was CBC god," she told the Star in an interview. She is the second CBC woman to come forward with allegations of sexual harassment by Ghomeshi. The CBC has announced they are investigating the first case, where Ghomeshi allegedly told a CBC staffer he wanted to "hate f—" her.

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Students: Our gold mines don't always shine

Dominican Republic. Ontario women were appalled by impact of Barrick Gold, Goldcorp on locals while on holiday; documentary now in the works

Three Canadian students were shocked by what they found last winter during a trip to the Dominican Republic. Canadian mining companies, they say, are destroying lives in the country due to the contamination of the land surrounding their mine.

"We visited the Barrick Gold mine, and while we were there, we spoke with a woman named Juliana (Rodriguez). She is 82 years old and has lived in the area for all of her life," Klaire Gain said. "She told us the last four years, which (has seen) Barrick Gold mining in the region, have been the worst years of her life."

Now, Gain, Claire Morrow and Natasha Jimenez — all from London, Ont., and recent graduates of the social justice and peace program at King's University College — are working to show the world what they witnessed.

Using their own money, and some brought in through fundraisers, the trio travelled back to the region this summer. They spent two months living in the area, working on farming co-ops, meeting and talking with as many residents, along with environmental and academic experts, as they could. They also hired former CBC cameraman Mark Visser, and flew him to the region where he filmed more than 100 hours of footage for a documentary expected to be ready by spring 2015.

The mine that's the focus of their work is located in Pueblo Viejo. It's 60 per cent owned by Barrick with the remaining 40 per cent owned by Goldcorp, another Canadian mining company. In 2013, the mine produced 488,000 ounces of gold, making it the largest in Barrick's operations — and the company says it's doing good, not bad, things for the community.

Barrick has offered King's students and staff a chance to come to the mine itself and meet with people working on the effort, spokesman Andy Lloyd said. Still, people like Juliana Rodriguez, the woman the students met on their first trip, aren't happy. Rodriguez had a clear message she wanted the group to bring back to Canada. "She looked at us, with tears in her eyes and said, 'We are dying because people in your country want to wear gold rings on their fingers,'" Gain recounted.

The communities in peril "are rural communities, the residents live off the land and their farms were once sustainable," Morrow said. One man they visited had been farming livestock and growing pineapples for years. Now, Morrow said, the livestock are dying and he can't sell the pineapples because they are grown on contaminated land. **MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO IN LONDON, ONT.**

Heartfelt

"She looked at us, with tears in her eyes and said, 'We are dying because people in your country want to wear gold rings on their fingers.'"

Student Klaire Gain, on what 82 -year-old Pueblo Viejo local Juliana Rodriguez said of the situation

Klaire Gain, foreground, and Claire Morrow are two of three London, Ont., students producing a film documenting mining operations by Canadian companies Barrick Gold and Goldcorp in the Dominican Republic. CONTRIBUTED

Not getting carried away

The trio's expectations for the documentary are realistic. "We understand that we are not going to make this documentary and all these companies are going to stop," Morrow said. "We understand all of these companies are going to be there for at least another decade. We understand the hypocrisy of having our computers here.
"What we are passionate about, is, hopefully, (the documentary) will inspire other people to think about their consumerism and hopefully spur other economies."

A tainted mango taken from one of the Dominican Republic farms is used to highlight concerns during a mining protest. CONTRIBUTED

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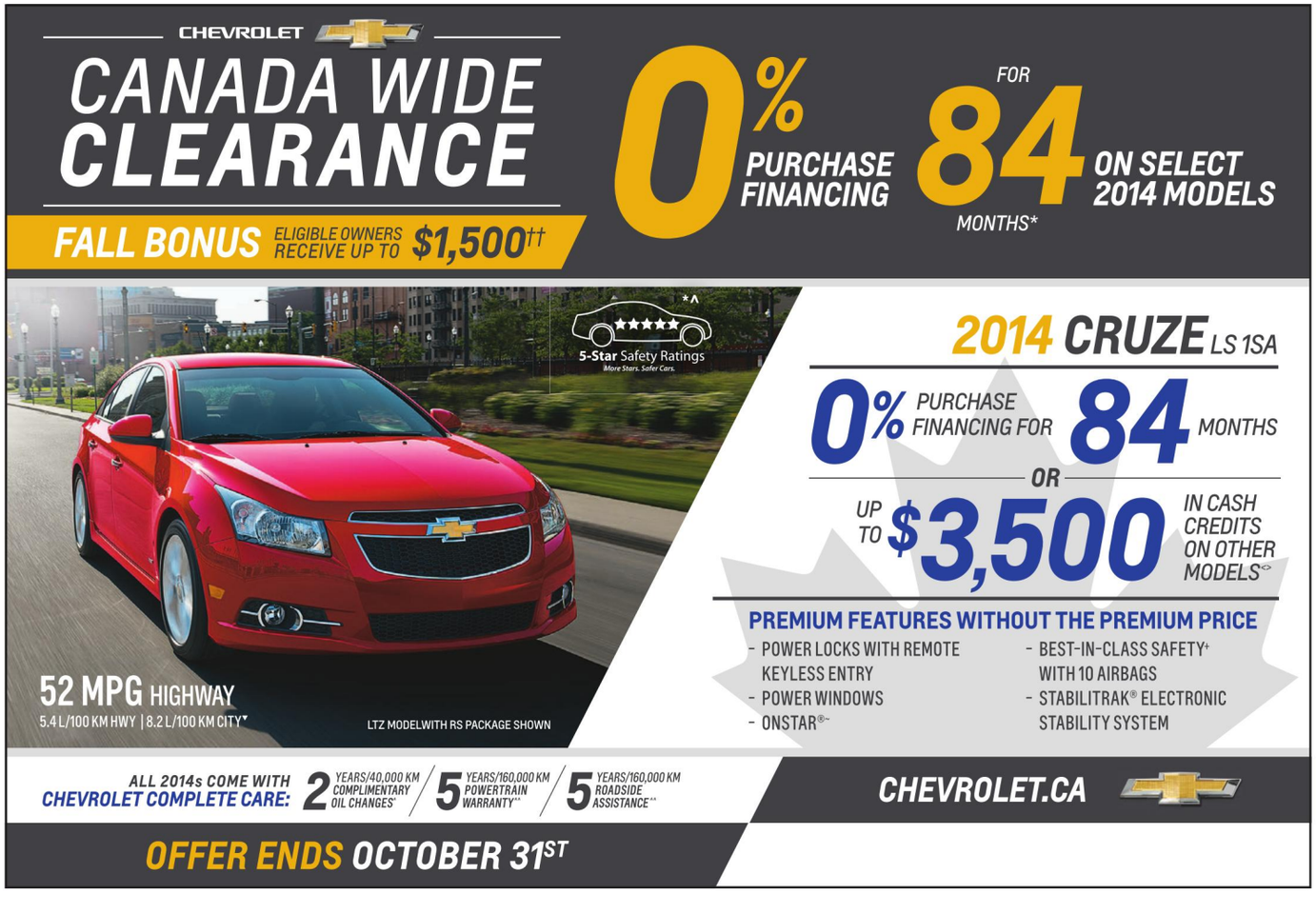
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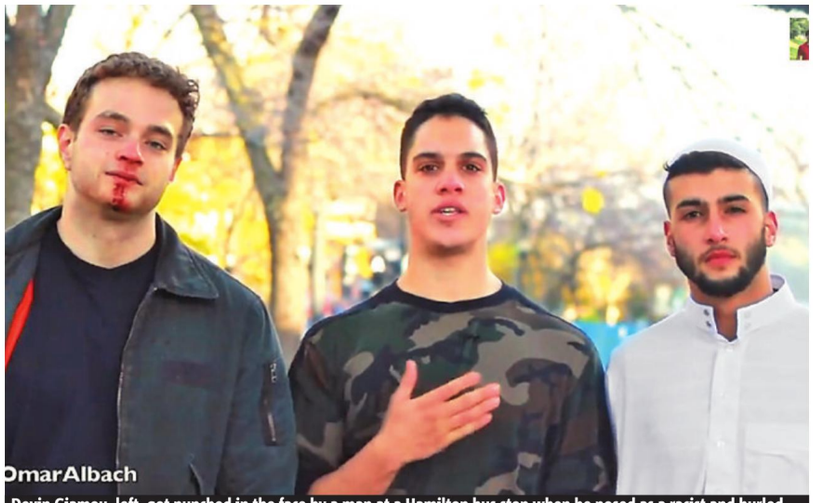

Devin Giamou, left, got punched in the face by a man at a Hamilton bus stop when he posed as a racist and hurled insults at a fellow actor in Muslim dress, right, for a YouTube video. YOUTUBE SCREENGRAB

A blow (in the face) against racism

'Social experiment.'
Bystander at bus stop in Hamilton slugs actor spewing anti-Muslim taunts

Its creators call it a "social experiment" spurred by the gunman's shooting rampage at Parliament Hill in Ottawa last week.

But their three-minute video posted to YouTube Monday shines a spotlight on Hamilton and a handful of people who stood up against anti-Muslim taunts hurled at a bus stop outside Jackson Square.

A young man who identifies himself as Devin Giamou spews the racist remarks.

His anti-Muslim vitriol is put on, just acting for the experiment, but Giamou gets more than a stiff rebuke.

He tells a small clutch of people outside Jackson Square another young man with a beard and in white traditional Muslim dress (who's also an actor for the experiment) shouldn't get on the bus because "he could be armed with explosives."

Giamou's character says, "I don't feel safe so I can't take this bus here," referring to last week's shooting spree, which began with the fatal shot that killed Cpl. Nathan Cirillo of Hamilton.

"I want to take him to another bus. I don't feel safe."

One man immediately pushes back: "You know, you can't stereotype and judge people by their clothes, or their nationality or anything else, you know what I mean? What happened there, it was an incident of fanatics."

A woman pipes up, too: "It was awful and tragic, but I don't think that's any reason to persecute someone just because of what they're wearing."

But Giamou keeps making his case, eventually trying to physically remove his fellow actor. At that point, someone jumps to the Muslim man's defence and slugs Giamou in the face.

After a brief clip that shows him talking to a police officer, Giamou, who has a bloody face, offers this conclusion:

"So the social experiment had a negative ending to it, but it's positive because he stood up for him and I appreciate that, that's good, that's good."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Indonesia close to laying charges against Canadian teacher: Family

Family members say the case against a former Calgary private school teacher detained in Indonesia for more than three months, has been turned over to a prosecutor and charges are expected to be laid by week's end.

Neil Bantleman, who taught at Calgary's Webber Academy for a decade, was arrested July 14 after claims of sexual assault arose from kindergarten-aged students at Jakarta International School.

Bantleman and his wife, Tracy, teach at the school.

He's been held in a Jakarta jail along with another teacher, but thousands have rallied around the pair and say no evidence has been presented to suggest they're guilty.

Metro spoke exclusively with Bantleman in a message interview from his cell earlier this month.

Much like his wife and JIS headmaster have in past interviews, Bantleman likened his case to the 1980s McMartin preschool trial in California in which one parent's allegations of abuse prompted mass hysteria, with claims that hundreds of kids attending the preschool had been victimized and subjected to satanic rituals.

"For those doubting my innocence, there really is nothing to say," he said at the time.

"Anyone familiar with the McMartin case and has read about the details of this case and doesn't believe we are innocent, then there is nothing that will convince them otherwise."

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Plea to delay autopsies of locker infants

Andrea Giesbrecht. Accused's lawyer asks for an independent pathologist to oversee all examinations

Request

"I don't want any further autopsies until this court has ruled."

Andrea Giesbrecht's lawyer Greg Brodsky

A staff member passes the lockers where the remains were found. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The lawyer for a woman accused of hiding the remains of six infants in a storage locker is asking the court to delay autopsies even though they are "90 per cent" complete.

Greg Brodsky, who represents Andrea Giesbrecht, says the autopsies shouldn't go ahead without an independent pathologist present.

Giesbrecht, 40, sat occasionally biting her nails and pursing her lips as Brodsky told an emergency hearing Wednesday that the independent pathologist would observe the examination "with his hands in his pockets and Velcro on his mouth."

"I'm saying for the 155th time, all I want is a pathologist who is competent and accredited to ... observe the autopsies," Brodsky told Judge Brian Corrin as police continued to search Giesbrecht's Winnipeg home.

"I don't want any further autopsy to be done until this court has ruled," Brodsky added. The hearing was eventually adjourned until Friday.

Giesbrecht, who showed no emotion during the hearing, is charged with six counts of concealing a body and one count of breaching probation. She has been in custody since the remains were discovered Oct. 20 by employees at a U-Haul storage locker. They had gone to do inventory since the locker bill hadn't been paid.

The state of the remains was such that police have said it could take months of forensic examination before it might be known who the parents were, how the infants died and whether they were even full term. Giesbrecht has not yet entered a plea and a bail hearing is scheduled for Nov. 12.

Court records indicate that Giesbrecht, who has also gone by the name Andrea Naworynski, is a gambling addict with a low-paying job at a fast-food restaurant.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Funding bid. Stem cell coalition keen to cement Canada as field leader

A coalition of Canadian stem cell advocates, researchers and charities is calling for $1.5 billion in private and public funding for stem cell therapy over the next 10 years.

The organization's action plan is aimed at cementing Canada's reputation as a stem cell leader, one that uses stem cell science to reduce suffering and death from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, vision loss, spinal cord injuries and other conditions.

James Price, the president and CEO of the Canadian Stem Cell Foundation, says the action plan could help millions of people with new, life-changing therapies. The action plan's call for funding includes $50 million scaled annual average commitment by the federal government.

The Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine estimates the action plan could also create more than 12,000 jobs due to the growth of existing companies and the development of new enterprises aimed at global markets.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian Stem Cell foundation CEO James Price THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO, CSCF

In numbers

12,000

Estimated amount of jobs that could be created if the stem cell coalition receives the $1.5 billion it is calling for.

†Subject to credit approval. To be eligible, patients must complete the Custom LASIK procedure on both eyes by January 15, 2015. Cannot be combined with any other offer or discount. *Prices are subject to change without prior notice and vary based on prescription strength. Applicable on a procedure for both eyes only. Other conditions may apply.

Will 13 be their lucky number?

Astronomical odds. 'If we were to have a girl, I think we would go into shock,' says Kateri Schwandt, a mom to 12 boys

A western Michigan couple with 12 sons is expecting baby No. 13, and even though they're sticking to their tradition of not finding out in advance whether they're having a boy or girl, they said they'd be shocked if their streak is broken.

Jay and Kateri Schwandt's baby is due May 9, The Grand Rapids Press reported. Even though they expect it will be another boy, the couple said they would welcome either into the family.

"If we were to have a girl, I think we would go into shock," Kateri Schwandt said. "It would probably be disbelief."

If he had a choice, Jay Schwandt said he would love to have a girl, but they're just "hoping for a healthy baby." Still, he would like to see the effect of adding a girl to the mix in a household with 12 boys.

"I've experienced all the boy stuff," he said. "As long as we are having all these children, it would be really neat to experience the other side."

The couple welcomed their 12th son, Tucker, to the world on Aug. 4, 2013. Their oldest son is now 22 years old.

"The stuff that goes on in this house is all-boy — roughhousing and wrestling," Jay Schwandt said. "If there was a little girl in there, I assume it would be different."

Kateri Schwandt, after being the sole female in the family for more than two decades, said she would lean toward having one more boy.

"A little girl would be neat to have in the house, but a little boy kind of takes the pressure off," she said. "We know what we are doing. Why change things up?"

The Schwandts, who live in Rockford, which is north of Grand Rapids, consider themselves devout Roman Catholics and don't believe in using birth control. Kateri Schwandt comes from a family of 14 kids. She said she is feeling well.

"I love being pregnant," she said. "I've spent half of my life being pregnant. It's very neat and very special."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Aug. 6, 2013, photo, the 12 Schwandt brothers pose for a photo in their home in Rockford, Mich. Jay and Kateri Schwandt, a western Michigan couple with 12 sons, are expecting baby No. 13. They say they'll be surprised if their all-boy streak is snapped. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Britain

RAF fighter jets escort cargo plane to airport

Britain scrambled two Royal Air Force Typhoon jets Wednesday to intercept a Latvian cargo plane that had lost communication with air traffic control, the Ministry of Defence and police said.

The Antonov was escorted safely to Stansted Airport outside London, authorities said. Police said it received calls about people hearing a "loud bang" in the Kent area, caused by a sonic boom. The Royal Air Force apologized on Twitter, saying its jets only "go supersonic over land when necessary."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California

Reality show psychologist testifies at man's murder trial

A psychologist who stars on reality TV show Hoarders says a man accused of killing an animal control officer suffered from hoarding disorder and could have reacted violently to anyone trying to take away his animals.

Robin Zasio, founder of the Compulsive Hoarding Center, testified for the defence Tuesday in the murder trial of Joseph Corey, 67. Corey is accused of shooting and killing Roy Marcum, 45, in 2012, as Marcum arrived at Corey's home to remove animals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Courageous' Malala receives Children's Nobel

Pakistani teen Malala Yousafzai listens to a question at the World's Children's Prize ceremony in Mariefred, Sweden, Wednesday. Malala is the first ever to receive the Nobel Peace Prize and the World's Children's Prize in the same year. The awards organization cited the 17-year-old for "her courageous and dangerous fight for girls' right to education." Yousafzai, who became the world's youngest Nobel laureate earlier this month when she was awarded the peace prize, said she was honoured to win this prize, known also as the "Children's Nobel." Yousafzai began speaking out for the rights of girls at age 11 in her country and was shot in the head by a Taliban gunman two years ago. PHOTO: ANDERS WIKLUND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; STORY: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York City. Elton John hails Pope Francis as his 'hero' at AIDS benefit

Elton John called Pope Francis "my hero" for his compassion and push to accept gays in the Catholic church at his annual AIDS benefit.

John hosted the event, An Enduring Vision: A Benefit for the Elton John AIDS Foundation, Tuesday night in New York City, which raised $3.7 million. He said Francis is pushing boundaries in the church and told the crowd: "Make this man a saint now, OK?"

"Ten years ago one of the biggest obstacles in the fight against AIDS was the Catholic Church. Today we have a pope that speaks out about it," said John, earning cheers from the attendees at Cipriani's on Wall Street.

Catholic bishops scrapped their landmark welcome to gays earlier this month, showing deep divisions at the end of a two-week meeting sought by Francis to chart a more merciful approach to ministering to Catholic families.

An earlier draft of the document offered a welcoming tone of acceptance, but that was stripped away after the bishops failed to reach consensus on a watered-down section on ministering to homosexuals.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Insensitive? Ex-governor takes blame for squabble over song at Malala event

Former Pennsylvania governor Ed Rendell on Wednesday blamed himself for a flap that led to a song being scrapped from a program honouring Pakistani teen Malala Yousafzai.

Malala was in Philadelphia last week to pick up a Liberty Medal. At the ceremony, the National Constitution Center, which gives out the medal, had agreed to play a music video by the 14-year-old daughter of a wealthy car dealer who has given to Rendell's past political campaigns.

In the song, titled America, the girl sings about how lucky she is to live in the U.S., "where the kids are safe."

Malala was shot in the head by the Taliban over her support of girls' education and went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Her advisers nixed the song hours before the event, Rendell said. "They came back and said this is culturally insensitive."

The girl's family was disappointed her song wasn't being used and left the event before Malala spoke.

The family had called Rendell, the vice-chairman of the constitution centre's board, about a month ago to suggest the song be used at the event.

"I thought it would be nice to add it to the program," Rendell said. "If there was a mistake made here, it was probably mine." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kilauea. Despite rainfall, volcano's lava flow forces couple to leave their home

Rain fell Wednesday on a red-hot river of lava as it threatened to consume its first home on its slow advance into a rural Hawaii town.

A breakout of the lava flow was about 30 metres from a Pahoa residence, said Hawaii County Civil Defence Director Darryl Oliveira. The couple who lives in the home has left.

Scientists from the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory who are walking alongside the lava reported its leading edge was 219 metres from Pahoa Village Road, which goes through a commercial hub of the Big Island's sprawling and isolated Puna district.

The leading edge remained in a large agricultural parcel that included another house, which was about 91 metres from the lava, Oliveira said.

Dozens of homes, business and other structures are in the area of the lava flow. That amount could increase as the flow front widens.

So far lava has burned a garden shed, tires and some metal materials.

On Wednesday, it burned mostly vegetation, while the rain helped tamp down smoke from the crackling stream.

Officials are monitoring hazards from the smoke. Chemists from the observatory detected low levels of sulfur dioxide, Oliveira said.

The lava flow emerged from a vent in June and until recently had been slowly weaving through uninhabited forest and and pastureland.

Jeff and Denise Lagrimas packed up to leave for a town 22 kilometres away. The flow is expected to slither past properties across the street from their home as it works its way toward the ocean, about 9 kilometres away. They decided not to stay and see if that happens or if the lava burns their home.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kilauea's lava flow has slowly been burning everything in its path since first appearing in June. U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At least 150 missing after Sri Lankan mudslide

Six confirmed deaths. With 120 plantation workers' homes destroyed, unaccounted for citizens feared dead

Sri Lankan men stand at the site of a mudslide at the Koslanda tea plantation in the Badulla district, about 220 kilometres east of Colombo, on Wednesday. The mudslide claimed six people, with 150 missing. ERANGA JAYAWARDENA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A mudslide triggered by monsoon rains buried scores of workers' houses at a tea plantation in central Sri Lanka, raising fears that hundreds may have been killed.

In the chaos that followed Wednesday morning's disaster, there was confusion about the number of dead and missing because government officials reported different figures and later reduced the number of missing by 100 without explanation.

The mudslide struck at about 7:30 a.m. and wiped out 120 workers' homes at the Koslanda tea plantation, said Lal Sarath Kumara, an official from the Disaster Management Center. The plantation is in the town of Koslanda in Badulla district about 220 kilometres east of Colombo.

He said at least 10 people were killed and more than 250 reported missing.

A 48-year-old truck driver who gave his name only as Raja said he lost all five members of his household — his wife, two sons, daughter-in-law and his 6-month-old grandchild.

"I left for work early morning and got a call asking me to rush back because there is an earth slip near my home. I came back and there is no trace of my home, everyone was buried," he said Thursday morning while weeping.

Disaster Management Minister Mahinda Amaraweera was quoted by media Wednesday as saying that more than 100 people had been killed. But moments later he told The Associated Press that less than 100 people were missing but they could not be counted as dead.

By late Wednesday, the Disaster Management Center's official numbers were six dead and 150 missing. Pradeep Kodippili, a senior official at the centre, did not explain the changes but said the agency would be able to give the media a clearer picture by Thursday morning.

The mudslide scene and eyewitness accounts suggested the disaster was enormous. Mud completely covered many homes while the roofs of some were visible. Water gushing down hillsides indicated more slides were possible.

About 500 military personnel and civilians searched for survivors with the help of heavy earthmoving equipment. The search was later called off for the night because of rain and muddy conditions, military spokesman Brigadier Jayanath Jayawerera said.

Most of Sri Lanka had experienced heavy rain over the past few weeks, and the Disaster Management Center had issued warnings of mudslides and falling rocks. The monsoon season in the Indian Ocean island nation runs from October through December.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indiana murders

Ex-marine faces 45 to 65 years

A judge recorded not guilty pleas Wednesday for a former marine who is charged with murder in the deaths of two Indiana women.

Darren Vann, 43, is charged with murder in the deaths of Afrikka Hardy and Anith Jones. He is additionally charged with two counts of murder in the perpetration of a robbery and two counts of robbery resulting in serious bodily injury. Vann faces 45 to 65 years in prison, or possibly the death penalty.

Vann's next hearing in both cases is set for Jan. 9.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hawaii

Japanese deputy mayor found dead

A Japanese deputy mayor visiting Hawaii to establish a sister-cities relationship with Honolulu was found dead in the water just off Waikiki Beach.

Chigasaki Deputy Mayor Takehiko Kimura, 63, was found unresponsive in the water at about 8 a.m. Saturday morning and was later pronounced dead at a local hospital.

Honolulu City Council Chairman Ernie Martin says Kimura had been encouraging Honolulu to enter a sister-city relationship for about a year.

The mayor of Chigasaki, a city southwest of Tokyo, signed the sister-city agreement Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan

Crown Princess resurfaces for first time in a decade

Japan's Crown Princess Masako attended a banquet for Dutch royals on Wednesday in her first appearance since developing a stress-related illness a decade ago.

The Imperial Household Agency said Masako joined her husband, Crown Prince Naruhito, at an imperial banquet for King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima of the Netherlands.

Masako, 50, became ill soon after giving birth to the couple's daughter, Aiko, now 12. The royals last year attended the king's inauguration in the Netherlands, where they have close ties.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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An extra $46 per Canadian could help cut homelessness

Annual report.
Lead author argues with a budget surplus, some of that money should go to fight homelessness in Canada

Spending an extra $46 per Canadian a year on affordable housing could dramatically reduce homelessness, a new research report concludes.

Existing intervention programs can only go so far if those who find a way off the streets or out of shelters can't afford their own place to live, say researchers from York University and the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness.

Their annual State of Homelessness in Canada study was published today.

With a budget surplus on the horizon, it's time to return to the days when federal cash was directly spent on building those places, said Stephen Gaetz, the director of the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness at York and one of the lead authors of the study.

"It's time to have a conversation — what are we going to do with that surplus?" he said.

"This is one that isn't going to break the bank. It's going to help not only end chronic homelessness but it's going to help many, many, many thousands of Canadians who are at risk of homelessness."

An estimated 235,000 Canadians a year experience homelessness at a cost to the economy of $7 billion. Despite $2 billion earmarked in federal funding, nationally the numbers still aren't moving down, the report said.

In 1982, there were 20,450 affordable housing units built, while in 2006 there were 4,393, the report said.

In 1989, $115 per capita was spent each year on adding to affordable housing stocks. Today, it's closer to $60 a year, while the Canadian population has risen 30 per cent, the report found.

Increasing the per-capita spending to at least $106 per Canadian — or $1.7 billion a year in federal funding — would allow for the construction of about 8,800 new units a year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Funding shortfall

The main reason behind what seems to be an intractable problem is a 46 per cent decrease in federal investment in affordable housing over the last 25 years, the report suggested.

- Affordable housing is defined as shelter that doesn't cost more than 30 per cent of a low-income person's budget.

A fork in the road: Fiat Chrysler spins off Ferrari

A technician works on an engine at the Ferrari plant in Maranello, Italy, in 2013. Fiat Chrysler Automobiles plans to spin off sports car maker Ferrari into a separate company, a way to unlock value in the luxury brand and distinguish it from its mass-market automaker parent. The company said Wednesday that spinning off Ferrari was part of a plan to raise capital to support the newly merged carmakers' expansion plans. Fiat Chrysler's five-year plan calls for increasing net income by five times by 2018. Fiat Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne said in a statement that it was "proper that we pursue separate paths for FCA and Ferrari" following the completion of the merger of Chrysler and Fiat with a listing on the New York Stock Exchange earlier this month. MARCO VASINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Controversy bubbling up

SodaStream is moving its West Bank factory

SodaStream International Ltd. said it will close a West Bank factory that has been targeted by boycott activists and move the facility to a location inside Israel.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
89.36¢ (-0.16¢)

TSX
14,527.57 (-96.68)

OIL
$82.20 US (+$0.78)

GOLD
$1,224.90 US (-$4.50)

Natural gas: $3.80 US (+$0.01)
Dow Jones: 16,974.31 (-31.44)

New rail safety rules unveiled

The Conservative government has unveiled a new set of rules aimed at improving rail safety in Canada.

They include tougher hand brake requirements, more Transport Canada staff to do audits, more research on crude oil properties and a requirement that rail companies submit training plans for review.

The new rules come after the Transportation Safety Board gave a failing grade this week to the country's two largest railways and the railroad involved in the deadly Lac-Mégantic disaster.

The TSB report said all have failed to file mandatory accident information in recent years.

The rail industry is facing heightened scrutiny following the fiery July 2013 derailment in Lac-Mégantic, Que., which killed 47 people and wiped out part of the town.

An unattended tanker train loaded with volatile crude oil broke loose from its parking spot, roared down a hill and slammed into the community.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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COSTUMES: POMPEII OK, PISTORIUS NO WAY

HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Ladies and gentleman, start your Twitters! It's Halloween season, which means it's time to be morally outraged by dumb people dressing up offensively.

I've been flexing my thumbs in preparation.

Every year people dress up as their favourite atrocities, racial stereotypes and "sexy" whatevers, showing that the really scary thing about Halloween is the deep, dark depths of human obliviousness. A great Halloween costume is a thing of beauty, but many people make it clear we should have left the holiday to the kids. As a public service to mouthbreathers, here's a quick list of things you shouldn't do if you want to avoid becoming a social-media sensation.

1. DO NOT bring sexy back: Every year we're inundated with "sexy" costumes, where "sexy" is roughly equivalent to "cleavage" and/or "inappropriately cold for late October." There's nothing wrong with that, but it's a bit lazy and played out. At least stick with things where "sexy" makes sense (cats, cops, humour columnists).

Too many costumes are just random nouns with "sexy" in front of it, like the "sexy hockey fan" costume (making the rounds on Twitter, natch), which is just a tight costume, a purse and the words "Puck U" on the front. Erotic! Please, let's save the bunnies for Easter. And, of course, don't sexualize your kids' costumes. There's a "girl's" firefighter costume in the news this year that replaced the helmet and uniform with a fascinator and a skirt. Put gender roles aside for a second: We are raising a generation of terrible firefighters. You may roll your eyes at political correctness now, but wait until they show up at your burning house 20 years from now with a handbag instead of a hose.

2. DO NOT dress as bad news. I can pretty much guarantee one Twitter outrage this year: Someone, somewhere, is going to dress as Oscar Pistorius. I'm certain mostly because it perfectly hits the Venn diagram of being a sensitive issue on four fronts: race, gender, gun use, and disability. What a perfect convergence for some guy to smash through in one swift movement because he thought of a "hilarious" idea while posting to #Gamergate. I hate him preemptively.

If you feel the need to dress as bad news, you have two options: fictional bad news (HAL 9000!) or bad news so old that nobody alive has any relatives who died in it. Pompeii it up.

3. DO NOT dress as any culture or race but your own: It's become an annual tradition to wait in anticipation for an NHL player to reveal himself in blackface, followed by the ceremonial cry of "What's the big deal?", followed by the communal sharing of the explanatory Wikipedia links. Soothing and reassuring, really.

Here's a helpful hint: If you're thinking, "Hmmm ... something in the way of cultural appropriation this year," why not try your own culture? As a white, middle-class, middle-age male, I'm considering "Guy Who Likes Pumpkin Spice Lattes" or "Guy Who Doesn't Own a Television."

For a woman it's almost the same. Just add a fascinator. Retweet if you agree!

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If you missed National Cat Day ...

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

SCREENGRAB

National Cat Day is a seemingly weekly event that provides Twitter users with a novel opportunity to share pictures of their felines online. Kevin Richardson is a man who knows his way around a cat, particularly the lions of South Africa. And while National Cat Day has passed, it seems as good an excuse as any to show the amazing GoPro footage captured when he strapped one to the back of a lioness. Warning to the sensitive: Eventually the cat finds some prey, and things don't go well for it at all.(GoPro/YouTube)

Letters

RE: Jian Ghomeshi Case Highlights Why Some Women Don't Report Assaults: Column, published online Oct. 27. 2014 I would like to commend Ruth Davenport on her column pertaining to the Ghomeshi debacle. She conveyed the sentiments of many women, but also of many men, like myself, who are offended by the systematic abuse of both men and women (but mainly women) under the guise of consenting personal sexual preferences. The CBC has an image/brand to protect and if it is made public that anyone in their employ acts in a manner that is contrary to that image/brand then I feel they pretty much have the right to dismiss (them). More importantly, women (or men) that have suffered abuse should be encouraged by our law enforcement to come forward and testify and not subjected to the negative attitudes that currently prevail. Victims should be protected. **Steve Reeve, Toronto**

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Masters of puppets mingle at the Museum of Anthropology

Spotlight Taiwan.
Catch some Asian puppetry shows and cultural exchanges next week

BACKSTAGE PASS
Graeme McRanor
vancouver@metronews.ca

The Taiyuan Puppet Theatre is one of the companies participating in the Ouxi Taiwanese Puppetry Festival. CONTRIBUTED

Today we're going to talk about puppets. But not those regular, run-of-the-mill puppets that spend most of their life listlessly lying behind cheap cardboard mini-stages in kindergarten classes and children's libraries across this great land.

No. These puppets are made in Taiwan.

More specifically, we're talking about the Asian puppetry you can check out at the Ouxi Taiwanese Puppetry Festival, a multi-day event at UBC's Museum of Anthropology that will feature distinguished Taiwanese puppetry groups Chin Fei Feng Marionette Theatre Troupe and the Taiyuan Puppet Theatre.

The festival is part of Spotlight Taiwan, a four-year initiative that explores Taiwanese culture through its arts, cultural representatives and heritage institutions.

"Taiwan's rich and complex history has had a major impact on its unique identity," says Jill Baird, the museum's curator of education and public programs. "MOA — which has always been a home to inclusivity, education and the celebrating of diverse cultures — is thrilled to be embarking on a four-year journey to present a diversity of Taiwanese cultural expressions."

Cue the puppets.

"Asian puppetry holds deep meaning in Taiwanese culture," says Taiyuan Puppet Theatre's managing and artistic director, Robin Ruizendaal.

"The vivid colours and sounds shared with the delicate gestures and thrilling fight scenes of hand puppetry are so interwoven in the consciousness of the Taiwanese people that the genre is often regarded as a symbol of the island's indigenous culture.

"The Taiyuan Puppet Theatre draws on the deep-rooted traditions of this art form, while creating new and innovative works — one of which we're delighted to showcase to Vancouver audiences."

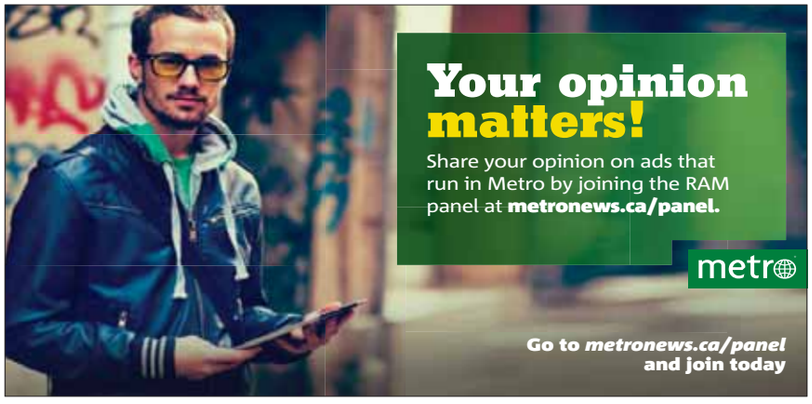
School shows are open to elementary and secondary students and run Nov. 4 to 6.

There's a meet, greet and eat on Friday, Nov. 7 (6-9 p.m.); two public performances Nov. 8 (11 a.m. and 2 p.m.); and a cultural exchange on Sunday, Nov. 9 that will feature members of both puppet troupes collaborating in performance with Haida artists Gwaai Edenshaw and Kung Jaadee (Roberta Kennedy).

For more information on these events, visit MOA.UBC.ca.

In other events...

The Koerner Quartet presents Nothing but the Classics, its second concert of the season, at the Vancouver Academy of Music's 120-seat Mary Olson Hall on Sunday, Nov. 2. The quartet celebrates past and present violists in a concert featuring revered chamber music masterworks. Performance starts at 2 p.m. Tickets $18/15 (students/seniors). For more information, visit KoernerQuartet.com.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One Direction fan spins a torrid tale

Books. Since posting risqué stories about a Harry Styles-esque character, Anna Todd has book, film deals

When the family of One Direction fan fiction writer Anna Todd found out the 25-year-old Texan had authored a steamy online book series captivating millions of readers, they were shocked.

"I didn't tell my husband until I was halfway through the second book. He thought I had a phone addiction," Todd says, giggling. "I was always on my phone, but he didn't know what I was doing."

The surprise for Todd's army husband came in 2013, months after she used online writing platform Wattpad to incrementally release her first book, After, a story about a college girl who falls in love with a character modelled after One Direction's Harry Styles.

Since then, Todd has been catapulted to stardom. She's written two more Wattpad stories, scored a major book deal with Simon and Schuster, sold the film rights to After to Paramount Pictures, and launched a jewelry line.

The success, she says, has made it hard for her to even go shopping without being recognized. It's a strange experience for someone who never imagined making a career out of writing from the backseats of cabs, the waiting room at her doctor's office or the aisles of grocery stores.

"I had no idea what to expect when I first started writing," she says. "I never expected it to turn into this."

She admits she's caught "a little bit" of flack for the sexual nature and risqué scenes described in her books, which some compare to erotic series Fifty Shades of Grey.

"My intention wasn't for anyone who wasn't mature enough to read it," she says. "The characters are 18 and 20, so I was reflecting their age range and I wasn't intending for this to be a One Direction fan-based thing."

She's also faced the scorn of avid One Direction followers, who believe Todd has wrongfully portrayed Styles as a bad boy with a predilection for emotionally abusing women and stirring up trouble.

In an outpouring of social media postings with hashtags like #StopAnnaTodd and #SuspendAnnaTodd, former fans have called on readers to boycott Todd's work.

For the most part, she has ignored the controversy.

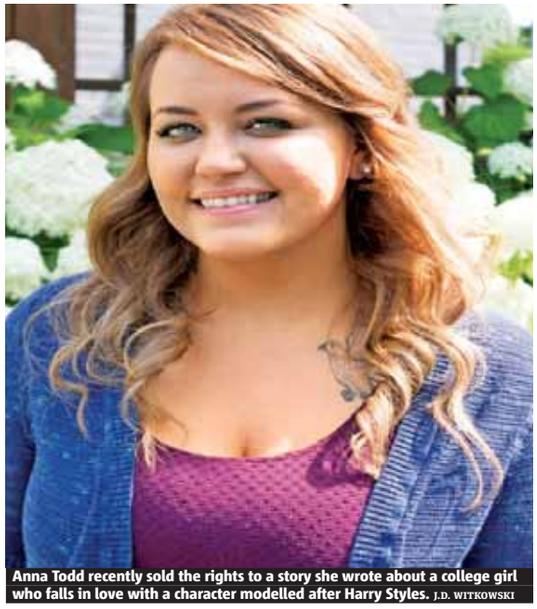
"Everyone has an opinion and it seems that the negative voices can be the loudest, but I chose to focus on the positive comments from readers," she says. "They make this whole process worthwhile and so much fun."

She says the instant support demonstrates the power of the online community and the Toronto-based Wattpad platform she uses, which allows users to read and write their own stories through an online portal or mobile app.

The company says nine billion minutes are spent on their platform every month by users reading 75 million free stories ranging in length and genre.

According to Wattpad general manager Candice Faktor, the most popular areas are romance, science fiction and mystery, but Todd has led a burgeoning wave of millennials gravitating toward fan fiction and mobile readers.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Anna Todd recently sold the rights to a story she wrote about a college girl who falls in love with a character modelled after Harry Styles. J.D. WITKOWSKI

Quoted

"My intention wasn't for anyone who wasn't mature enough to read it. The characters are 18 and 20, so I was reflecting their age range. I wasn't intending (it) to be a One Direction fan-based thing."

Anna Todd, fan fiction author, on controversial sex scenes in her online stories

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Streaming. Netflix gets adventurous with new action-history series about Marco Polo

Netflix has begun promoting its latest original series, an action and adventure drama slated to premiere worldwide on Friday, Dec. 12. A new video reveals the first scenes from Marco Polo's adventures in the court of the Mongol emperor Kublai Khan.

After House of Cards, Orange Is the New Black and Hemlock Grove, Netflix has shifted its focus to action, adventure and history with Marco Polo.

Set in the 13th century, the 10 episodes are a fictionalized take on the Venetian merchant's adventures in the court of Kublai Khan, the grandson of Genghis Khan and future emperor of China. Political betrayals, forbidden romance and martial arts battles are all in store.

Italian actor Lorenzo Richelmy stars as Marco Polo opposite actress Zhu Zhu (Cloud Atlas) as the woman who captures his heart. Joan Chen, Remy Hii, Olivia Cheng, Claudia Kim, Uli Latukefu, Chin Han and Tom Wu round out the cast.

Italian actor Lorenzo Richelmy plays the travelling merchant in the title role of Marco Polo. NETFLIX

Created by John Fusco (Hidalgo), the drama is produced by The Weinstein Company. The episodes are directed by Joachim Ronning and Espen Sandberg, the duo behind Kon-Tiki and the next movie in the Pirates of the Caribbean franchise.

The entire first season of Marco Polo will arrive on Netflix December 12 in all of the countries where the platform is available. AFP

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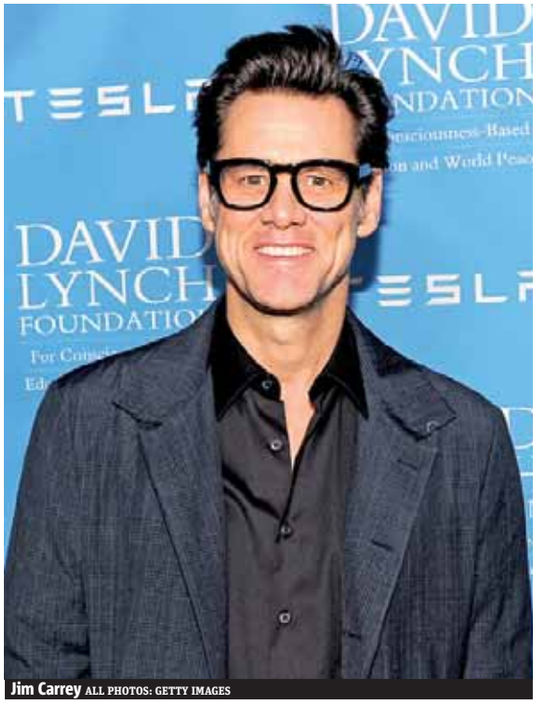


Jim Carrey ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Carrey isn't the type to marry ... for a third time

Jim Carrey is no longer the marrying kind, apparently. "I just don't see it as necessary at this point," the twice-divorced 52-year-old grandfather tells Howard Stern during an interview. "Is it really sacred? I don't know."

Deep, probing questions, to be sure. But more telling seems to be what years of fame seem to have done to Carrey's outlook on romance in general: "If you hook up with someone who is famous, you become a sellable commodity and that's the most important thing in those magazines," he says.

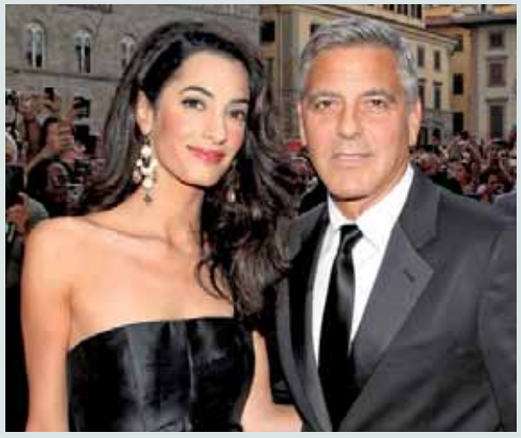
"It's not what you're doing in the movie. It's who you are with, what are you doing, are you breaking up?"

And I'm sure that after hearing such a good point about the whole business, Stern immediately abstained from asking any further questions about Carrey's personal life.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Clooney party inconveniences commoners

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

It turns out that entertaining George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin can be bad for business. A recent soiree thrown by the newlyweds at the Danesfield House hotel in Buckinghamshire, England, left other guests feeling a bit overlooked. Clooney's fabulous, swanky affair apparently necessitated renting out half the hotel's rooms.

One guest posted to TripAdvisor, "Booked afternoon tea two months in advance for very special occasion for family, never got to go as was canceled one week beforehand due to exclusive event taking over the hotel. ... Won't book with them again."

Sounds like something out of Downton Abbey, honestly.

Twitter

@GarryShandling
I don't normally believe in curses but the Lakers should get a shaman in there as fast as possible.

@therealroseanne
obama was put in office by banksters who wanted to make sure that the president after him would be Jeb Bush.

@billyeichner
I know you guys want to be sexy AND topical but PLEASE don't dress up as Slutty ISIS this weekend.

Katie Holmes

Don't put Katie in the Cruise corner

Katie Holmes does not want to be defined by her divorce from Tom Cruise, you guys, so stop asking about it. "I don't want that moment in my life to define me, to be who I am. I don't want that to be what I'm known as," she tells People magazine. In fact, that's just the beginning of Holmes' batch of don'ts. "I don't have any fear now, I don't have a lot of rules for myself and I don't take myself that seriously." But what do you do, Katie? Aside from humour People magazine when they ask about the divorce you've made it clear you don't want to talk about? Although I can see that takes up a lot of your time.

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Wang throws down the new urban uniform for H&M

Style. The designer's take on day-to-night dressing includes a stop at the gym

A quick scan of the crowd gathered for Alexander Wang's H&M debut revealed the fashion set's new unofficial uniform: sleek black everything and sneakers.

It seems that every editor present ditched her stilettos for the multi-part extravaganza — which included a morning press conference downtown, an evening fashion show way uptown, followed by an after-hours pop-up shop and concert — which was totally fitting.

Wang has championed effortless, off-duty dressing since launching his label in 2004. For Spring '15, the designer drew inspiration from "the phenomenon of sneaker culture." Now his much-hyped H&M collaboration takes on active wear.

"A lot of my friends are gym fanatics and go to SoulCycle," explains Wang about the starting point for his capsule.

The designer, who has a sixth sense for how tastemakers want to dress, stresses that these days sporty clothes aren't just relegated to the gym.

"There's a lot of people like me: I'm not an athlete, I don't work out, but I wear gym clothes almost everyday," he says.

Further proving his point that fashion-inspired fitness is a thing, Beyoncé recently announced a new partnership with TopShop to produce an athletic streetwear label.

"People have such active lifestyles that they want to be comfortable. They want to be able to move and take the subway and run around," says Wang.

If there's anyone who understands our fast-paced lives, full of multitasking and meals on the go, it's Wang. In addition to designing his eponymous multi-million dollar brand, the 30-year-old was named creative director of Balenciaga in 2012. And somewhere in the mix he managed to create this collection for the Swedish fast-fashion retailer — which, he stressed, isn't a lower-priced version of his greatest hits. These designs are brand new.

"For me I always try to push forward and discover a new conversation that I haven't necessarily done before, while staying very true to the approach of ease, the approach of being unpretentious, the approach of being comfortable," he says.

Sporty clothing fits the requirements. Specifically, says Wang, "the idea of sports at night." Anyone who's attended a Wang after-party knows that the designer prefers to burn his calories on the dance floor.

Cutout scuba dresses, tech-inspired leggings and quick-drying crop tops work just as well at the club as they would at, say, Equinox. The technical construction behind athletic wear was another draw for Wang.

"I'm not trying to reinvent the wheel," says the designer. "I love fashion; it's fun, and I think it should be celebrated."

METRO

Alexander Wang's line for H&M hits stores Nov. 6 CONTRIBUTED

He wears it well

"This line is so close to my process and how I live that it felt very authentic to my lifestyle."

Alexander Wang

Our favourite looks from Alexander Wang x H&M

Hoodie, $69.95

Quick dry socks, $18

Leggings, $59.99

Down jacket, $349

Sweatshirt, $59.99

Breathable dry dress, $99

Bloody good side adds subtle spooky touch

Cookbook of the Week

The yum factor in bitter bites

In some places (think Italy and parts of Asia), bitter flavours are appreciated. In North America, sweet and savoury nab the culinary spotlight. Jennifer McLagan is out to change that with her book Bitter.

Through science, culture, history and 100 recipes, McLagan explores bitter bites in all of their aspects and makes a case for the misunderstood flavour.

Recipes include Arugula Pizza, Cardoon Beef Tagine, Methi and Spinach with Baked Eggs, Rapini with Penne, Grapefruit Tart and more. METRO

White Asparagus with Blood Orange Sauce.

A Halloween-worthy dinner accompaniment

"If you can't find blood oranges you can use a regular orange, but the flavour won't be quite the same," writes Jennifer McLagan in her book Bitter.

"This sauce is an orange butter sauce made exactly the same way you would make a white butter sauce (beurre blanc), but using orange juice instead of wine. The cream is added to make the sauce more stable.

"Two important things to remember when making this sauce: use a heavy pan that transfers the heat slowly and evenly, and watch carefully as you whisk in the butter. If your sauce overheats, you can let it cool down slightly, add a splash of water, and whisk it back together."

1. Cook the asparagus (place in a pan of boiling water so they are in a single layer. Lower the heat and simmer for 15-25 minutes. You want them cooked, not crunchy).

2. While the asparagus is cooking, finely grate the zest from the orange and then squeeze the juice. Place both the zest and the juice in a small saucepan and bring to a boil over medium high heat. Reduce the heat and boil gently until the mixture is reduced to about 2 tablespoons. Stir in the cream and season with salt and pepper.

3. Drain the cooked asparagus and keep warm in a low oven.

4. Cut the butter into 6 pieces. Place the pan with the juice and cream mixture over very low heat and slowly whisk in the butter, thoroughly incorporating each piece before adding another. While you're whisking, keep the sauce warm, but not hot, so that the mixture emulsifies and the butter doesn't melt into the sauce. When all the butter is incorporated, taste, adjust the seasoning, and serve over the cooked asparagus.

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Ingredients

- 12 large fat white asparagus
- 1 blood orange
- 1 tbsp whipping (35 percent fat) cream
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup (4 ounces / 115 g) cold unsalted butter

This recipe serves four. AYA BRACKETT

This recipe serves four as a side dish. AYA BRACKETT

Side. Grilled Radicchio with Creamy Cheese

1. Cut the radicchio heads into quarters and drizzle with olive oil, turning to lightly coat the pieces. Season with salt and pepper.

2. Heat a gas grill to medium, or set a heavy cast-iron pan over medium heat. When it is hot, add the radicchio and cook, turning often, until it is soft, brown in color, and lightly charred, about 12 minutes. Cut the cheese into pieces.

3. Transfer the radicchio to a serving dish. Top with pieces of the cheese and sprinkle with the balsamic vinegar. The heat of the radicchio will melt the cheese.

Ingredients

- 2 heads Treviso radicchio, about (7 oz / 200 g each)
- Olive oil
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 1/2 oz (75 g) creamy cow's milk cheese
- 2 tsp balsamic vinegar

For your phone

Crumb: Ruby Tandoh Bakes (iPad/iPhone; $3.99)

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

With an aim to explore new sweet and savoury tastes in baking, this cookbook and troubleshooting guide includes 45 step-by-step recipes offering muffins, daily loaves, chicory pies and baklava.

Tip me over and pour me out

It's the time of year when hot drinks (spiked or not) become fashionable for entertaining. Forget the single-brew pours — instead, offer up warming bevvies from some of the hottest serving vessels on the market

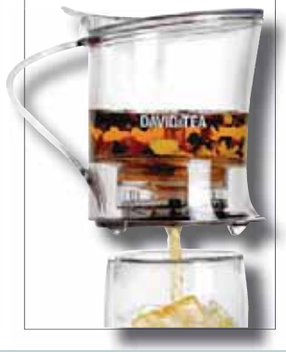
DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Catch red-handled

Coffee and tea service can now travel all around the house when entertaining, thanks to this carafe. Primula Kata Soft Grip 1.5-litre Thermal Carafe, $37, BedBathAndBeyond.ca.

Steep for joy

Pour hot water, let steep and then release into the cup for hot or cold tea — easy as 1-2-3. The 32-ounce Steeper, $30, DavidsTea.ca.



Take to flask

Serve your favourite hot beverage at the game or just on the balcony. Kullar Steel Vacuum Flask, $10, IKEA.com.

Let it drip

Retro drip-coffee style comes right to the dining table in heavy-duty, yet lightweight glass. Hario V60 Range Server, $30, CrateAndBarrel.com.

Hot off the press

Tall and sleek is the best way to brew coffee at the table. La Cafatiere Lexi Bone China Coffee Press, 900ml, $120, TheBay.com.

Come into bloom

Marimekko's famous Unikko fabric brings charm to the table in the form of a Unikko Teapot, $98, EQ3.com.

Security. Guaranteed 'zombie-proof' cabin unveiled just in time to thwart undead trick-or-treaters

A zombie attack could happen at any time — but with Halloween just around the corner, it's best to be prepared.

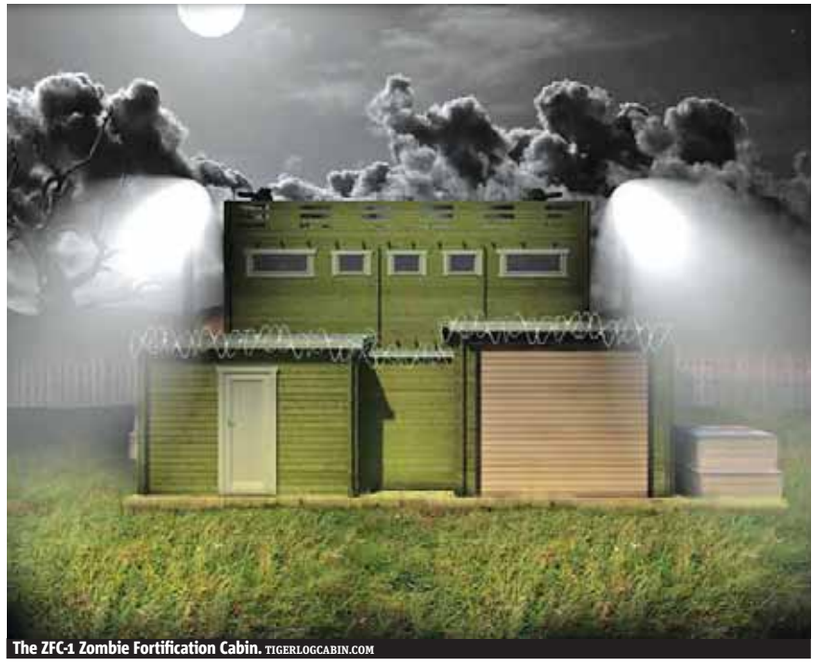
Luckily, a U.K. building company has launched the ZFC-1 Zombie Fortification Cabin, a zombie-proof shed offering guaranteed protection against "all forms of possible zombie attacks."

Comprising three sections separated by lockable doors for extra security, the cabin features a garage (for the getaway car), built-in food storage units and a residential area including a living room, kitchen, bedroom, toilet and a gym.

A plasma TV, an Xbox, a fireplace and kitchen units have all been incorporated into the concept.

Additional defence features include decking, which provides a panoramic vantage point for spotting any approaching zombies and extra secure doors and double glazed windows.

The wooden cabin is made from 44 mm-thick timber, with cut logs along the side of the building making it almost impossible for zombies to climb on to the roof. Barbed wire has been added, just in case. AFP



The ZFC-1 Zombie Fortification Cabin. TIGERLOGCABIN.COM

Medical evidence required

The ZFC-1 can be purchased for a starting price of approximately $113,000 US.

- The cabin comes with a 10-year guarantee — although "medical evidence of the presence of a real zombie" is required.

Furniture

3D connector is all you need to build furniture

A 3D-printed connector that can be used to create a range of furniture pieces took centre stage at the Biennale Interieur in Belgium this past week.The brainchild of design studio Minale Meada, Keystones allows furniture to be built with basic materials by holding together its various components, meaning that no joinery skills are required to assemble pieces.

Currently available for tables and coat stands, Keystone's dimensions can be adjusted to fit the size and height of the table and the choice of material. The furniture elements are clamped into the connector via printed screws that are integrated into the connectors and clamp the material. AFP

REACHING BEYOND LUXURY

Vancouver homebuyers have come to expect luxury, but quality is still what matters most, says Kristen Bull, marketing manager for Kensington Gardens, a new condo development in Vancouver's Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood.

Now homebuyers have one last chance to own a high-quality home in this up-and-coming neighbourhood. The final phase of Kensington Gardens launched Saturday.

"Now is a great time for new homebuyers to become part of an outstanding development," Bull says. "We've had such a positive response from our buyers so far."

Westbank, the developer of Kensington Gardens, is Canada's premier developer, known for quality and building award-winning, design-driven developments in Vancouver, including the Shangri-La, the Shaw Tower, Telus Garden, the Fairmont Pacific Rim, and Westbank's beacon project, Vancouver House.

"Quality is the defining factor that savvy homebuyers look for today," Bull says. "Our homes are thoughtfully designed to be adaptable, comfortable and convenient. Luxury is our baseline."

The quality of Westbank's new Kensington Gardens development stands out in many ways.

Designed by renowned Henriquez Partners Architects, Kensington Gardens brings sublime design and convenience to its residents. The development's concrete construction, geothermal heating and cooling, German-imported kitchens and stainless steel appliances speak volumes.

The integrated urban community is comprised of three residential towers, a collection of townhouses and a residential podium, linked by an elevated landscaped courtyard, a new park, lane and plaza.

CONTRIBUTED

The development's newly released northeast tower homes were designed for many different lifestyles, from singles buying their first homes to families looking for room to grow to seniors looking to downsize. Homes in the northeast tower start at $249,900.

Homes at Kensington Gardens range from one bedrooms to three bedroom and dens. The presentation centre features a two-bedroom-and-den display home with luxury fixtures and finishings that will come standard in homes at the development.

The kitchens are a room to socialize in, providing residents the space and materials to express their inner chef.

The kitchens will offer top-of-the-line appliances with German-imported Nobilia cabinetry, Miele appliances, Duravit fixtures, elegant wide-plank engineered wood flooring, sleek Corian countertops, polished chrome faucets, and back-painted glass tile backsplashes.

"We've thought of everything our residents will need," Bull says.

Families will flock to Kensington Gardens

A home might look good on paper, but a personal visit to the neighbourhood will tell you much more.

At Kensington Gardens, the community holds just as much appeal as the beautifully designed homes do.

"We just launched sales of the final tower of this landmark, master-planned community last weekend — the northeast tower," says Kristen Bull, marketing manager for new Vancouver condo development Kensington Gardens. "The response has been phenomenal."

Visitors to the Kensington Gardens show suite will get a chance to experience the richness of the vibrant Kensington-Cedar Cottage community with its eclectic shops, dining and entertainment.

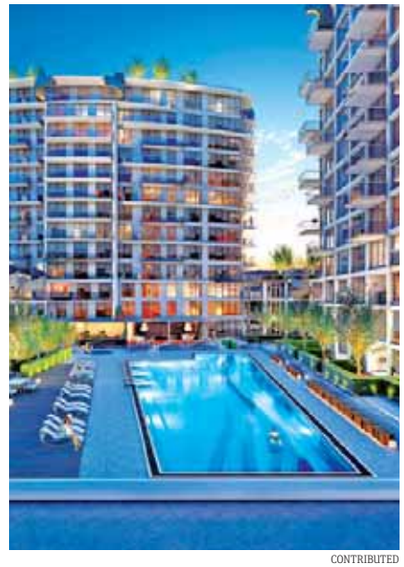
"Westbank chose to build Kensington Gardens in this neighbourhood because we were very impressed with how family-oriented Kensington-Cedar Cottage was," Bull says. "We saw great potential for growth here."

The master-planned community will take up an entire city block at 2220 Kingsway in Vancouver.

The Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood is home to many amenities that will make residents and their families feel right at home.

Residents with children will appreciate the development's close proximity to schools and recreation areas. Gladstone Secondary, Lord Selkirk Elementary and John Norquay Elementary are just a few blocks away from Kensington Gardens. For after-school recreation, check out Brewers Park, Kensington Park or General Brock Park nearby.

Accessibility to the rest of the city is one of the many perks of Kensington Gardens. Transportation options nearby include a SkyTrain station, while bus and bike routes will take residents anywhere they need to go in the city.



CONTRIBUTED

The Kensington Gardens presentation centre is open daily from noon to 5 p.m. (closed Fridays) at 2220 Kingsway (at Gladstone).

CONVENIENCE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Residents at Kensington Gardens will get much more than a beautiful home, fine finishings and a great neighbourhood. The development has much more to offer, including a barbecue area, a fitness centre, a year-round swimming pool, and more.

In addition to its luxurious homes and multi-use shared areas for residents, the development will be home to retail and service options and five-star amenities of which residents can take advantage.

"We're very excited about the great retail tenants, including a 40,000-square-foot Asian supermarket that will be moving in on the ground floor at Kensington Gardens," says Kristen Bull, marketing manager for Kensington Gardens.

Call the sales team at 604-620-7886 for more details.

Register at kensingtongardens.ca to stay in the know and be the first to find out about upcoming special offers.

FINAL TOWER RELEASE

604 620 7886 KENSINGTONGARDENS.CA

Presentation Centre 2220 Kingsway, Vancouver Open Daily Noon – 5pm, Closed Fridays

It's All Here. Starting from $249,900

Northeast Tower
PREVIEWING NOW

South Tower
75% SOLD

Premier Asian Restaurant

German Kitchens

West Tower
75% SOLD

Kingsway Podium
SOLD OUT

Fitness Centre

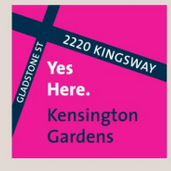
National Asian Supermarket

Year-round Swimming Pool

Generous Private Amenity Space • Elevated Garden Courtyard • Urban Orchard • Year-round Swimming Pool • Fitness Centre Sauna • Hot Tub • BBQ Area • Outdoor Fireplace • Playground • Resident Lounge • Multimedia Lounge • Premier Asian Restaurant National Asian Supermarket • World Class Retail & Services • Landmark Plaza • Asian-Inspired Park • Public Art • Landscaped Rooftop

KensingtonGardens

Shaw Tower | Telus Garden | Woodwards | Shangri-La Vancouver | Fairmont Pacific Rim | Vancouver House



CANADA'S PREMIER DEVELOPER

westbank

PRICE AND AVAILABILITY SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. THIS IS NOT AN OFFERING FOR SALE. ANY SUCH OFFERING MAY ONLY BE MADE BY WAY OF DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. E.&O.E.

CONTRIBUTED

Buy the whole package at The Park

A new condo development is coming to downtown Metrotown that will give homebuyers the whole package — affordability, accessibility and the natural beauty of Burnaby's parks and green space, and an urban downtown Metrotown location.

Starting Saturday, 100 premium homes at The Park Metrotown will be released at the Intergulf showroom at City Square Mall in Vancouver.

Offering one bedrooms from $229,900, two bedrooms from $429,900, and three-bedroom townhomes from $636,900, The Park is Metrotown's best value.

To celebrate the exclusive release of the development's early collection, The Park team will be offering exciting giveaways throughout the day (including $25 gift certificates to Metrotown for the first 200 visitors), and is offering an exclusive deal for the first 50 purchasers. Buyers will receive $5,000 off one bedrooms, $10,000 off two bedrooms, and $15,000 off three bedrooms.

"We're very excited about the first-ever release of homes at The Park," says Sean Lin, sales director of The Park. "These homes have an unbelievable price point for their quality and their location. We expect to see a lineup out the door on Saturday."

With interiors designed by award-winning interior design studio Christina Oberti, which include Italian-made Bertazzoni appliances, residents will have beauty as well as functionality in their homes. All homes have spacious, smartly designed layouts with spacious balconies and high-end finishings.

Expansive windows elegantly frame breathtaking panoramic views of Vancouver, the North Shore Mountains, Deer Lake Park and the surrounding area.

"The Park is the perfect combination of an urban Metrotown and peaceful parkside location," Lin says.

Previews of The Park begin this Saturday, with the first 100 units being released at noon until 5 p.m.

Visit the Intergulf showroom at City Square Mall, #130 – 555 W 12th Ave., Vancouver. Contact The Park at Metrotown team at 604-687-8800, or info@TheParkMetrotown.com. For information about Saturday's event, call The Park hotline at 604-600-6892.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS RIGHT AT HOME

The Park Metrotown offers its residents more.

Looking for a place to enjoy the tranquility of your park home in the city? The Park offers exclusive amenity space for residents including 2,500 square feet of rooftop oasis, including an outdoor lounge, indoor yoga studio and juice bar.

The development's 20,000-square-foot wellness centre includes a spa complete with European inspired hydrotherapy pools, an expansive fitness centre, and your own private garden.

Intergulf, the developer of The Park, strives to go beyond the expected to offer homebuyers something special.

That's part of Intergulf's philosophy of responsibility, accountability and attention to detail — all properties that come through in The Park Metrotown.

Intergulf is one of Vancouver's most well respected and high-quality developers, with former developments including Kits360, Empire at QE Park, and the Grand Central community.

AMENITIES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Metrotown is simply a great place to live.

"The city of Burnaby was recently chosen as Canada's best-run city for a reason," says Sean Lin, sales manager for The Park Metrotown. "Living here, you have it all — parks and green space, thriving local shops and services, accessible transportation, and internationally renowned brands — all at your doorstep."

The Park Metrotown is located next door to Metropolis at Metrotown, an endless source of all the shopping residents that will need.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

With more than 450 stores, including Coach, Michael Kors and other well-known fashion brands, Metropolis at Metrotown is a style hub.

The Apple store, Best Buy and many more tech stores offer a plethora of options for the tech-obsessed.

When residents are looking for grocery shopping options, T&T Supermarket and the Real Canadian Superstore, as well as several other grocery options, are within easy walking distance.

Treat yourself with a night out at the cinema. The SilverCity theatres at Metropolis are always playing blockbusters on the big screen.

Crystal Mall is also a short walk away, with its many shops and services, from fresh produce, the most delicious food court in Metro Vancouver, to even more fashion options of which residents can take advantage.

When it comes to green space, residents at The Park Metrotown have hit the jackpot. The development is directly adjacent to Bonsor Park, with its playing field, tennis courts, track and playground — great for residents of any age who are looking to get some exercise and enjoy the outdoors.

Right beside, Bonsor Recreation Centre offers drop-in fitness classes, a full swimming pool and many other courses and events to keep you active, learning and entertained.

The Park residents will also have easy access to Burnaby's Central Park, which is about a 15-minute walk or five-minute bike ride away from the development. Go for a walk on one of the many peaceful forest trails and take in the beauty of the majestic trees, meadows and ponds. You can even hit the links at the Central Park Golf Course.

ONE DAY PREVIEW EVENT NOVEMBER 1ST

A DOWNTOWN METROTOWN OASIS

Here, in bustling Metrotown, you're in the midst of a truly livable community, with an abundance of shops, schools, services and restaurants. It's a vibrant neighbourhood, and The Park's right at the centre of it all.

All from a developer with decades of experience creating Vancouver's most sought-after communities. **Homes start from $229,900, and the first 50 homeowners will save up to $15,000!**

ONE DAY PREVIEW EVENT
ANNOUNCING THE EARLY RELEASE OF THE FIRST 100 UNITS. BE FIRST IN LINE!
November 1st, 12 – 5 PM
Intergulf Showroom, City Square Mall
#130 – 555 W 12th Ave, Vancouver

TheParkMetrotown.com

THE PARK HOTLINE
604.600.6892

intergulf DEVELOPMENT GROUP

MARKETING BY magnum project ltd

Price and availability subject to change without notice. The Developer reserves the right to modify the building design, floorplans, prices, features and specifications without notice. This is not an offering for sale. Any such offering can only be made by way of disclosure statement. E. & O.E.

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Innovative space-saving program for Surrey condo

Bosa Properties is raising condominium living to new heights with its innovative BosaSPACE™ program, which essentially doubles the size of the home, in the University District development in Surrey. Nestled between major amenities in the fastest growing city in Metro Vancouver, University District strives to offer an affordable, functional home in a thriving environment to meet a myriad of needs.

"One of the great things about University District is that it has something for everyone," says Anderson Hsu, Bosa Properties sales manager. "Along with young professionals and families, we've seen many first-time homebuyers take the first step into home ownership here."

Each unit in the University District is fully equipped with Bosa's new program, BosaSPACE™. The unique program includes an expandable dining table, a bed that turns into a modern sofa and a media centre that turns into a daybed sofa.

BosaSPACE™ anticipates your needs, changes form and function to meet the shifting rhythms of your daily life — and gives you an area that lives considerably larger than it measures.

As if that isn't enough, the University District is a five-minute walk from major spots such as the SFU Surrey campus, Kwantlen College, Surrey City Hall, Central City Shopping Centre, SkyTrain, libraries, a recreational centre with a swimming pool and ice skating rink, and a luxury hotel.

"But you don't have to go far to seek out what you need because University District boasts a gym, a yoga cabana that overlooks a beautiful sky garden with an outdoor barbecue, fireplace and dog run space," Hsu adds. "In addition, there is a meeting room, lounge, theatre and a guest suite. What's more, we have a full-time concierge."

As with any Bosa Properties home, you can expect a condo unlike anywhere else. See BosaSPACE™ in action at its sales centre. For more information, visit bosaproperties.com/ud or call 604-558-5795.

SEE BOSASPACE™ IN ACTION

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

BosaSPACE™ homes make square footage meaningless, with a radically new way of living that responds to your daily needs.

The kitchen island transforms into a dining table for 8 in less than 1 minute.

Priced from $221,900

Canada's most innovative tower is over 65% sold!

PLAN	TYPE	STARTING
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B2	1BR	$228,900
F	2BR	$319,900

Sales Centre open daily 12-5pm
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Surrey City Centre

bosaproperties.com 604.588.5795

BOSA PROPERTIES | UNIVERSITY DISTRICT

University District - Alumni is developed by Bosa Properties (104) Inc. Renderings and finishes are representational only. Prices subject to change. E.&O.E.

MORE UD DETAILS

- University District offers 310 homes ranging from studios to two bedrooms and a den. One-bedroom homes are approximately 500 square feet.
- Priced from $221,900.
- Every condo includes high-quality, exacting finishes and the BosaSPACE™ program, which is the first of its kind in North America.
- University District is a five-minute walk between eight major amenities including city hall, SFU Surrey campus and the Surrey Central SkyTrain station.

CONTRIBUTED

NHL

Canucks' Matthias critical of his play

Shawn Matthias was blunt in assessing his play early on this season.

No sugarcoating, whatsoever. The numbers don't paint a pretty picture — nothing but zeroes where goals, assists and points usually go.

On Tuesday, playing in the ninth game of the season, Matthias recorded an assist on Brad Richardson's first goal of the evening.

The Canucks went on to beat the still-winless Carolina Hurricanes, and the line of Matthias, Richardson and Zack Kassian played a prominent part.

It was the first point of the season for Matthias.

"I would say it's my best game this season because I've been pretty crappy the first eight games," said Matthias, acquired in the blockbuster Roberto Luongo deal with Florida.

"I'll be honest there."

Matthias was a force during a number of shifts in what amounted to just over 12 minutes of ice time against Carolina.

The trio of Matthias, Richardson and Kassian stood out with physical play. They played with speed and aggression and were rewarded on the scoresheet.

During a penalty kill in the second period, Matthias found an extra burst of speed, beating Jiri Tlusty to a loose puck and driving hard to the net with a power move.

It was a prime chance created out of nothing more than a big player using his speed and size without hesitation.

"You're going to get points when you play hard," he said. CAM TUCKER/METRO

Michel of FC Dallas celebrates after scoring on a penalty kick as Whitecaps Kendall Waston, left, and Matias Laba react on Wednesday in Frisco, Texas. TONY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whitecaps denied 1st playoff win at Dallas

MLS. Controversial call leads to winning penalty-kick goal

Playoff

FC Dallas	Whitecaps
2	1

A late penalty-kick goal created by a controversial handball call brought the Vancouver Whitecaps' season to a frustrating end.

Midfielder Michel stutter-stepped and slid his unmolested shot into the left side of the net in the 84th minute as Vancouver goalkeeper David Ousted dived in the other direction to give FC Dallas a 2-1 victory in the knockout round of Major League Soccer's Western Conference playoffs.

The loss ended the Whitecaps' five-game unbeaten streak and closed out a season in which Vancouver (12-9-14) advanced to the post-season for the second time in its MLS history.

Dallas (17-12-6) will face Seattle in the two-game conference semifinal.

The penalty was awarded as a bouncing ball in the Vancouver box barely glanced off the right arm of Kendall Waston as the Whitecaps defender tried to put his hands behind his back. The call was met with several minutes of protests by the Vancouver players, but referee Mark Geiger stood firm.

Tesho Akindele scored to give Dallas a 1-0 lead in the 40th minute.

The Whitecaps rose to tie the match in the 64th minute when substitute Kekuta Manneh's shot was blocked and the ball fell at the feet of Erik Hurtado, who slammed it past keeper Chris Seitz to give his team life. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Little rest for the wicked: Bumgarner, Giants win title

Giants Buster Posey, left, and Madison Bumgarner celebrate after winning the World Series on Wednesday night in Kansas City. JAMIE SQUIRE/GETTY IMAGES

Game 7

Giants	Royals
3	2

Madison Bumgarner and the San Francisco Giants succeeded where no team had in 3-1/2 decades, winning Game 7 on the road for their third World Series title in five years.

Punctuating one of the finest October performances in baseball history, Bumgarner came out of the bullpen to pitch five scoreless innings on two days' rest for his third win of the Series, and the Giants held off the Kansas City Royals 3-2 Wednesday night in a championship pushed to the limit.

A two-out misplay in the ninth almost wrecked it for Bumgarner and the Giants. He had retired 14 in a row when Alex Gordon's single fell in front of centre-fielder Gregor Blanco, who let the ball get past him for an error that allowed Gordon to reach third.

Bumgarner, however, retired Salvador Perez on a foul-out to third baseman Pedro Sandoval. The big left-hander was immediately embraced by catcher Buster Posey, and the rest of the Giants rushed to the mound to join the victory party.

Three days after throwing 117 pitches in a four-hit shutout to win Game 5, Bumgarner threw 68 more and dropped his record-low career Series ERA to a barely visible 0.25. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS

Bonino anchors solid second line for Canucks

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Matt Larkin
vancouver@metronews.ca

As I've established in this space already, I'm reserving judgement on Vancouver's long-term forecast for 2014-15. The 6-3-0 start is nice, and the Canucks flew out of the gate against Carolina in Tuesday's win. They continue to look offensively energized under Willie Desjardins. Four of their wins have come against Edmonton, Calgary and Carolina, however. So let's pump the brakes.

Something — someone, rather — to feel legitimately optimistic about, though, is Nick Bonino.

The two-way centre is off to a sparkling start as a Vancouver Canuck, amassing seven points in nine games. He's given Vancouver a legitimate second-line centre behind Henrik Sedin. And that's interesting considering the Canucks were supposedly relinquishing one in the Bonino trade.

Stat

17th

Nick Bonino's rank among NHL forwards in Corsi Close so far this season, per puckalytics.com.

Ryan Kesler had been their staple for years, a monster at both ends of the rink with deft scoring touch, albeit a spotty health history. Bonino came to Vancouver in a pre-draft trade along with the 24th overall pick, which became Jared McCann.

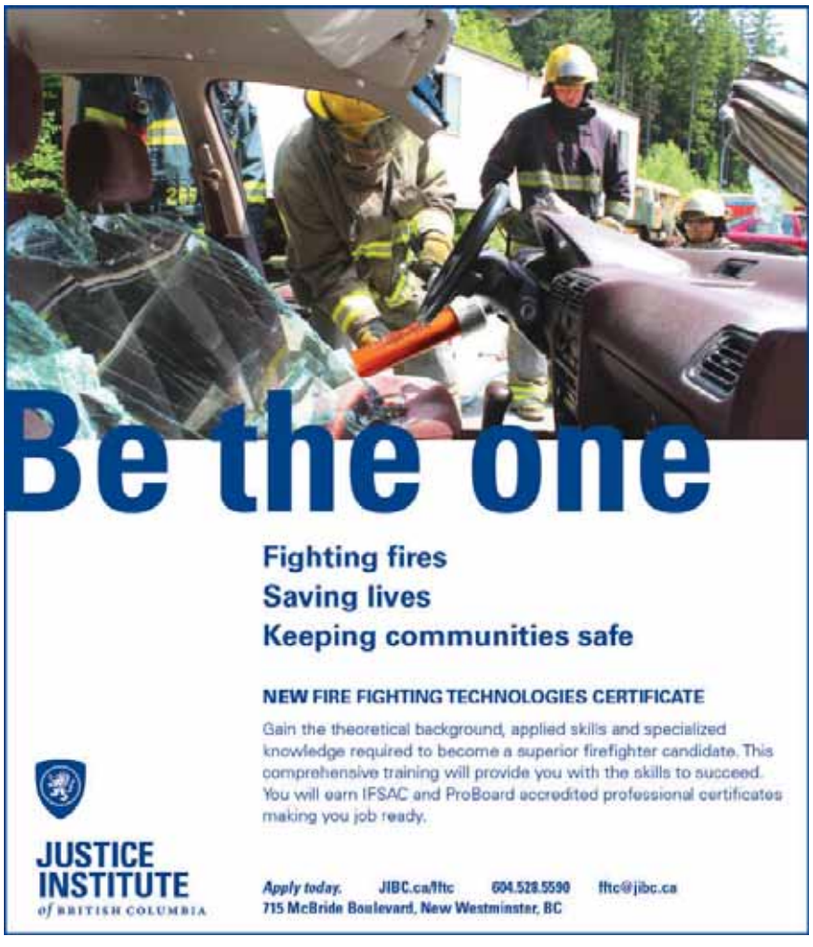
But I said it at the time and I'll say it again: Bonino was no throw-in. In a lot of ways, he isn't just younger than Kesler — he's like a young Kesler. Bonino's ceiling is probably lower — don't count on 41 goals or a Selke Trophy — but he does a lot of the same things well that Kesler does. He's difficult to play against and he can anchor a second line.

Bonino busted out for 22 goals and 49 points last season with Anaheim and followed with four goals and eight points in the playoffs. To me, his continued production with Vancouver isn't remotely fluky. It looked sustainable after last season. The key reason: It's not like Bonino relied on superstars Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry to get his points.

He rarely if ever played with them. Centring Vancouver's second line means, obviously, we won't see Bonino lining up with Henrik and Daniel Sedin any time soon, and that's OK. He's clicked well on a line with Chris Higgins and Alexandre Burrows.

I wouldn't make much of the fact Bonino and Kesler are tied in points. It's not about comparing the two. What matters for the Canucks is that they got a highly useful piece back for Kesler, plus a future return in McCann. Bonino is no Kesler, but he's no flash in the pan.

Zack Kassian, left, and Nick Bonino celebrate Bonino's goal against the Washington Capitals on Sunday night at Rogers Arena. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS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NBA

Wizards can't take the Heat

Chris Bosh had 26 points and 15 rebounds, Norris Cole scored a career-high 23 points, and the Heat opened the post-LeBron James era with a 107-95 win over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night.

Dwyane Wade added 21 points for Miami, 12 of those down the stretch after he briefly departed with a leg injury.

Marcin Gortat and Drew Gooden led the Wizards with 18 points apiece.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Wiggins starts for Minnesota

Andrew Wiggins, the No. 1 overall selection in this year's draft, got the start for the Minnesota Timberwolves in his NBA debut against the Memphis Grizzlies after Kevin Martin was sidelined by an ankle injury.

Wiggins, from Thornhill, Ont., scored six points in just under 19 minutes as the Wolves lost 105-101.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hometown win. Raptors win squeaker of a season opener despite early lead

Jonas Valanciunas had 17 points to lead the Toronto Raptors to a 109-102 season-opening victory over a pesky Atlanta Hawks squad Wednesday night.

Amir Johnson added 16 points, eclipsing his previous opening-night high of 13 points for Toronto, which improved to 11-9 all-time on opening night and 8-6 when starting the season at home.

That delighted the loud, enthusiastic Air Canada Centre sellout of 19,800, many donning the free white We The North T-shirts left on their seats as they arrived.

DeMar DeRozan had 15 points and a career-high 11 rebounds while Terrence Ross added 13 points for Toronto, now 12-8 all-time in home openers.

But it was an anxious finish for Toronto, which led 90-71 early in the fourth on consecutive baskets from Valanciunas.

However, Scott's three-pointer pulled Atlanta to within 103-99 with 1:26 remaining before two Kyle Lowry free throws boosted the Raptors' lead to 104-99 with 46.8 seconds left to play.

Patrick Patterson dunks home two points during the Raptors' opening-night win over Atlanta on Wednesday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A goaltending call on Patrick Paterson allowed Atlanta to make it a four-point game (105-101) before two DeRozan free throws increased Toronto's lead to 107-101 with 32.4 seconds to play.

Teague made one-of-two free throws to make it 107-102 but Patterson's dunk with about 13 seconds remaining cemented the victory. THE CANADIAN PRESS

AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
If nothing seems to add up today it's because you are trying to solve a problem that has no answer. It's OK to admit it. You don't have to be in control of each and every situation.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
If someone reacts in an emotional way to what you say today then perhaps you should take the hint and steer clear of touchy issues.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You have a number of duties to attend to and, although you might prefer to ignore them, you feel honour bound to do what is expected of you. You'll be rewarded.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If you try to limit someone's freedom today, it could rebound on you. Better to give them the space they require. It's unlikely they will wander too far without your approval.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You may not get the results you expected today but don't worry — in the greater scheme of things you are making substantial progress.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
A change of scene will do you a world of good over the next 24 hours and could even lead to a financial opportunity you might otherwise have missed.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Fix your attention on a certain situation and learn as much as you can. The more you know, the better placed you will be to benefit from coming upheavals.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Make a conscious decision to go with the flow and don't think of it as a defeat if you have to change your plans at the last moment.

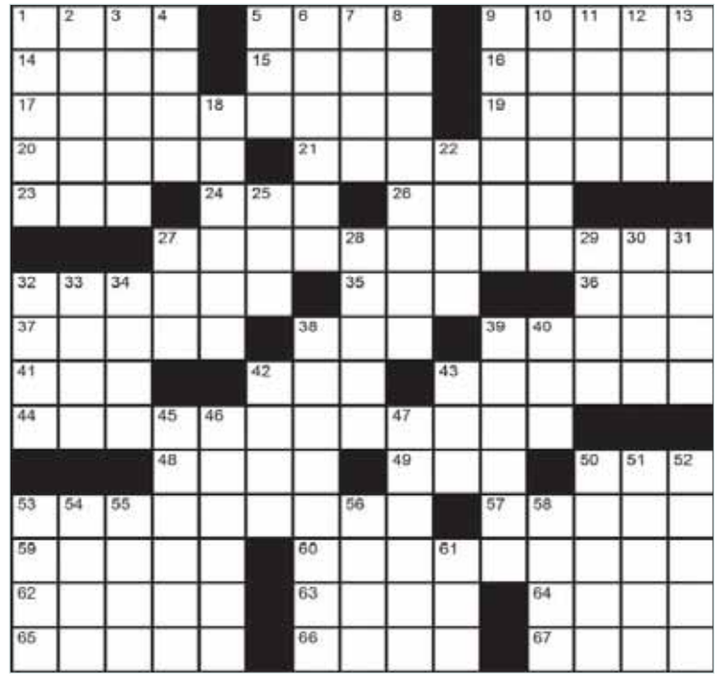
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may feel as if you are getting nowhere fast but on a deeper level you are in fact making considerable progress.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may know what is wrong with a certain situation but you are not in a position to put it right. The planets warn you should leave well alone. The cosmic picture will change over the next few days.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your mind may be bursting with big ideas but what use are they if you don't knit them together into a coherent and workable plan? Bring those big ideas down to a human level.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Someone you haven't seen for a while will come back into your life and the effect on your feelings could be dramatic. Don't get carried away. They've changed a lot, and so have you.

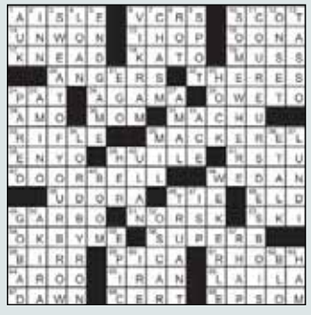
Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



Across
1. Rocky Mountains animal
5. Country singer's 2001 to 2007 sitcom
9. Fred Flintstone exclamation bit
14. Apiece
15. Richard of "A Summer Place" (1959)
16. The Hunter constellation
17. Tactical
19. "__ you!" (Response to an Achoo!)
20. "A League of __ Own" (1992)
21. The art of making sense
23. Cousin of -enne
24. Promise to pay
26. Biblical land
27. Montreal's is Rue Sainte-Catherine; Toronto's is Yonge Street ...what is Edmonton's main thoroughfare?: 2 wds.
32. Mike __, Mayor of Halifax
35. Speed __.
36. Li'l mailbox item
37. Inclined
38. Up to, briefly
39. Domicile
41. __ Radio-Canada
42. Jammies
43. Don __, Mayor of Edmonton
44. Halifax band Joel Plaskett fronted: 2 wds.
48. Commotion
49. Retro albums, briefly
50. Scott Weiland gr.
53. In-pain athlete's injection
57. Ice Cube, aka __ Jackson
59. __ cake
60. Bicycle support
62. Chicago's airport
63. Zeno of __ (Ancient Greek philosopher)
64. Hanna-Barbera specialty [abbr.]
65. Nervous
66. Take a break
67. Richard of reels

Down
1. Gary Cooper movie, "Beau __" (1939)
2. Vows
3. Property measures
4. Language spoken in Bangkok
5. Riddle-me-__
6. Dishware item at breakfast
7. Scott of "Charles in Charge"
8. Rachael __ (Marlo Cruz on Global TV's "Rookie Blue")
9. Nina of "The Vampire Diaries"
10. Ms. Dickinson of "Dragons' Den"
11. "Tres __!"
12. Particular pear
13. Grande-__, village in New Brunswick
18. Emergency Room who-needs-care-first process
22. Wax-coated cheese
25. Suffix with 'Lact'
27. Marcia and Cindy's sister
28. Actress, Kimberly __
29. Modernists
30. Take apart
31. Level
32. Skewer
33. Ingrid Bergman movie, "__ of Triumph" (1948)
34. See: French
38. William Shatner's '80s police series, "_-_-__"
39. Dispatch boats
40. Wager
42. Really smart letters
43. Little devil
45. Verbalizes
46. Evening party
47. Volleyballer-turned-author Gabrielle's
50. Western film of 1953 starring Alan Ladd
51. Hold: French
52. __ Amidala, Natalie Portman's 'Star Wars' movies role
53. Curdle
54. South Dakota dam
55. Macklemore & __ Lewis
56. River famous since ancient times
58. Groom-to-be's party
61. Chocolate treat, with Kit

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	1	5	3	2	7	4	9	8
4	9	3	8	5	1	6	7	2
7	8	2	4	6	9	3	1	5
1	6	8	2	9	3	7	5	4
5	7	4	6	1	8	2	3	9
2	3	9	5	7	4	8	6	1
3	2	6	9	8	5	1	4	7
8	5	7	1	4	6	9	2	3
9	4	1	7	3	2	5	8	6

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		7		6		9		
	4						1	
1			4		7			2
		9				4		
3								5
		2				6		
5			1		6			7
	7						9	
		6		5		3		

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SAMSUNG

M: RB196ACRS

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M: SHE53TL5UC

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M: WF42H5700AG / DV42H5600EG

PROMO PRICED $1899.96 MSRP $2900

SAMSUNG

M: NE595R0ABSR

Stainless Steel Ceran-Top Range with 5.9 cu ft Capacity, Convection and Steam Clean Option

PROMO PRICED $999.98 MSRP $1500

MAYTAG™

4.1 cu ft High Efficiency Top-Load Washer and Dryer

M: MVWX500BW / YMEDX500BW

PROMO PRICED $998.96 MSRP $1500

While Stock Lasts!

FRIGIDAIRE

M: CFEF3016LW

30" White Coil-Top Range with 5.3 cu ft Capacity and Self Cleaning Oven

PROMO PRICED $499.98 MSRP $680

M: MFI2269VEM

MAYTAG™

33" Stainless Steel 3-Door French-Door Refrigerator with 21.8 cu ft Capacity and Ice Maker

PROMO PRICED $1499.98 MSRP $1900

SAMSUNG

M: DW7933LRASR

Stainless Steel Dishwasher with 4 Wash Cycles including NSF Certified Sanitize Option

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